

Misty Perry
honored with
bridal shower



Kelley Foods
holds picnic for
employees and
families



Elba Varsity
Cheerleaders
ready for 2003
football season



The Elba Clipper

Volume 107, Number 8

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, August 7, 2003

1 Section, 14 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

New Brockton Town Council recognizes hometown softball players

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Despite making a special presentation, the New Brockton Town Council conducted a rather routine meeting Monday evening, Aug. 4.

The highlight of the meeting was a presentation to five young ladies from New Brockton as the mayor and council recognized them for their sporting abilities.

Vanessa Stuckey, Kurstie Stanton, Chelsea Smith, Rebecca Baer and Rebecca McKenzie were each presented certificates from the mayor for their participation with their all-star softball team from Enterprise.

Due to lack of local participation in this age group, the young ladies had to travel to Enterprise in order to play softball this year, and the Enterprise team managed to have a remarkable season.

Through this accomplishment, the town council chose to recognize the five girls from New Brockton for their part in the team's overall success with the certificate presentation and refreshments.

The council is going to look at implementing an ordinance for dangerous buildings in which the mayor said the council will be asking citizens to help clean up the area.

Council member Ron McMonagle said this ordinance will deal with damaged or rotted buildings, and will make it mandatory for damaged buildings to be repaired or torn down. He said buildings in question will be inspected by an appointed officer. Property owners of the damaged building(s) will be given a certain time frame to repair the problems.

McMonagle said this is simply another step on the town's behalf to help provide safety for the children of New Brockton by removing possible hazards.

To this, Mayor Cole said he already had one property owner

agree to allow the fire department to burn his building as part of a training session. He said the owner will clean the area after the building is burned.

Cole said the council along with the town's attorney will take a closer look at this ordinance during the next working session and should be ready to take action at the next regular council meeting.

The planning of fund raising efforts for New Brockton will move forward one step Thursday evening, Aug. 7, as the fundraiser committee has a meeting planned at the New Brockton Senior Citizens building beginning at 7 p.m.

McMonagle said this effort is continuing in order to raise the money necessary to move forward with the grants and improvements approved for the Town of New Brockton. He said fundraising events already held and those now being planned all contribute to improving the

Please See TOWN, Page 6



New Brockton Mayor Charles Cole gladly accepted the responsibility of recognizing a group of young ladies Monday evening, Aug. 4, during the town's council meeting. He, along with council member Jody Stuckey, presented certificates to five local softball players in recognition of their efforts with an Enterprise All-Star Softball team. Present for the presentation were team members Vanessa Stuckey and Kurstie Stanton. The other three New Brockton players also recognized by the mayor and town council for their sporting abilities were Chelsea Smith, Rebecca Baer and Rebecca McKenzie.

New Brockton officials request proper house numbering

New Brockton Mayor Charles Cole made an announcement Monday evening, Aug. 4, during the monthly council meeting concerning E-911 House Numbering within the town limits.

Cole said residents will receive with their August water bill a request to correctly number their houses according to the E-911 notification. The announcement indicates the following:

"These numbers must be 2 1/2" in height, be of durable weather-resistant and highly visible material. They are to be displayed so as to be clearly visible from the street from either direction. They may be placed: • On or above or beside the front door; • On a freestanding marker located in the front yard, provided it is within 10 feet of the back of the curb; • On a curb-type mailbox, provided it is located in the front yard; • If a building is 60 feet or more from the street, a freestanding marker will be displayed.

After 60 days, police officers will be asked to make a visual inspection of the houses to see that they have been numbered. If they have not, the owners will be notified and given a second chance to comply. Non-compliance after that time will carry a penalty of up to \$500.

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Elba City School educators received a little extra motivation Friday morning, Aug. 1, as Dr. Mamie McCullough presented a program of encouraging words at the Elba High School auditorium.

The faculty and staff of the school system had returned to the classroom a few days ahead of the students to take care of final preparations for the beginning of the school year 2003-04, and the administration provided them with this uplifting program in an attempt to get things started on an upbeat note.

Dr. McCullough, a resident of Dallas, Texas, is known as one of the country's most popular motivational speakers as she speaks and conducts seminars for businesses and school system staff as everyone prepared for the beginning of the school year.

Raised in poverty with eight brothers and sisters in Dixie, Ga., she is living proof that "It's not where you start that matters - it's where you finish" and "It's not what happens to you - it's what you do with what happens to you that counts."

Through her speaking engagements, Dr. McCullough is renowned for encouraging people to "Be All You Can Be", and she stresses that families should ideally provide a safe haven, encouragement,

love, learning and so many other ingredients necessary for proper development and happiness.

The program Dr. McCullough presented Friday morning from the Elba High School auditorium followed suit with her work as an encourager as she delivered an entertaining and insightful message to "inspire and equip others to handle life's most difficult problems with her personal formula for success and happiness."



Dr. Mamie McCullough delivered a motivational program filled with inspiration and humor Friday morning, Aug. 1, to the faculty and staff of the Elba City School System. This was part of an in-service program for the school system staff as everyone prepared for the beginning of the school year.

NOTICE

The Elba Electric Department announces a planned power outage for Sunday, Aug. 10, from 5 a.m. until 8:30 a.m.

Area Happenings

THE COFFEE COUNTY BAPTIST ASSOCIATION will host a Prayer Walk for ALL the Schools in Coffee County on Saturday, Aug. 9, from 9-10 a.m. Prayerwalking is explained as walking around the schools while praying, and those interested in participating are encouraged to do so at their school of choice. All denominations are invited as concerned citizens seek protection through prayer for Coffee County's children, teachers and school administrators.

THE COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION will hold its regular bi-monthly meeting Monday, Aug. 11, at 9 a.m. in the community room of the county complex in New Brockton.

THE SOUTHEAST ALABAMA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION will hold its monthly meeting Thursday, Aug. 14, at the Coffee County Farm Center. For more information, please call Elizabeth Whicker at (334) 894-2077 or Charles Jester at (334) 306-2724.

THE ELBA HIGH SCHOOL BAND BOOSTERS CLUB will hold an organizational meeting Monday, Aug. 18, at 7 p.m. in the high school band room.

NEW SEASONS STUDY CLUB will sponsor Elba's bi-monthly event on Saturday, Sept. 6, at the Elba Recreation Center. During the talk, a "Man of the Year" and "Woman of the Year" will be honored. The club is currently seeking nominations based on a strict criteria guidelines for these honors. An application for nomination can be found inside this edition of the paper. Also, tickets to the event are currently on sale and can be purchased at the Elba Chamber of Commerce in Denise's Hair and Nail Salon.

Elba BOE holds special meeting to approve personnel changes

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City School Board met in special session on Wednesday, July 30th. The purpose of the special meeting was a number of proposed personnel changes, both new hires and reassignments for the upcoming school year.

In the high school, Harold Rogers was hired as assistant principal. He comes to Elba from the Enterprise school system. Rogers has over 25 years in public education and will be an asset to the Elba schools, according to Superintendent Danny Weeks. He is certified in special education and will also work with the program which trains students in certain jobs and which ultimately awards "Occupational Diplomas".

Brenda Boutwell was hired as office aide for the high school. She substituted in that area last year.

In the elementary school, Shery Butler will be working part time as gifted teacher; Jane Moseley will be teaching first grade; Janna (Westbrook) Curtis will serve as fifth grade teacher and Delisa (Blair)

Parrish will be teaching third grade; Bryce Phillips, with a degree in Sports Management, was hired as instructional aide (Title 1); Kaye Farris will serve as instructional aide in the reading program. Farris worked several years as an aide in the school system before resigning to complete her degree in education. Betsy Martin will work as office aide at the elementary school and Emily Kelley was hired as bus driver.

Reassignments at the elementary school are Brenda Skinner who will serve as K-3 reading teacher; Kim Gibson will be the fourth through sixth grades reading teacher, and Debra Crosby is now serving as elementary librarian. Kathy Mularz was transferred from the high school and will be a special education aide.

All those hirings and transfers were recommended by the Superintendent as required by law and approved unanimously by the members of the Board. Board member Bill Brunson abstained from voting on the hiring of Betsy Martin as office aide.

Alabama records first death from West Nile virus

The Alabama Department of Public Health announces the first death from West Nile virus infection in Alabama to six.

The four new human cases are from Baldwin, Marshall, Monroe and Shelby counties. Illnesses among these four new cases started either in June or July.

In addition, there have been four new human cases of West Nile virus infection in the state since the first human case in Geneva County last week. Three of the four individuals are recovering, and the fourth, a man in his eighties, is currently hospitalized. This brings the total reported human cases of West Nile virus infection in Alabama to six.

The four new human cases are from Baldwin, Marshall, Monroe and Shelby counties. Illnesses among these four new cases started either in June or July.

"This unfortunate death and the new human cases of West Nile virus should reinforce the need for Alabamians to take precautions to avoid mosquito bites," said Dr. Donald Williamson, state health officer.

"Furthermore, there also has been statewide evidence of Eastern Equine Encephalitis virus activity, making it all the more important that people take precautions to reduce their chances of being bitten by mosquitoes."

"Every Alabamian should assume that mosquitoes infected with mosquito-borne virus are in their community. The risk of disease from mosquito bites will probably increase and continue until a freeze in late fall kills the mosquitoes."

In addition to the human cases, West Nile virus has so far been detected in captured mos-

Please See WNV, Page 6

AUGUST

HELP PREVENT VANDALISM...Most citizens probably would not consider the local cemetery as a preferred site for vandalism; however, evidence has proven otherwise lately. These grave markers were found earlier this week to be covered with red clay. According to the Elba Recreation Dept., which handles the upkeep of the Evergreen Cemetery, red clay is not used by the department. Besides this clay incident, recreation officials also noted that one of the oldest markers within the cemetery was recently stolen. Vandalism is a crime which carries a huge penalty. Citizens are encouraged to help officials and law enforcement prevent vandalism crimes by reporting any suspicious activity.

EDITORIAL

BRAINSTORMS
with Ferrin Cox

Those "bargain" credit card offers keep coming. Most folks get them in the mail, over the telephone and if they have an e-mail address, they come that way also. Of course if they were not a hefty profit to be made, this wouldn't be happening. The senders of these offers are banking on the fact most folks carry big, ongoing balances on their credit cards. Note how this plays out for the user and the issuer of the card. If you have a balance of \$1,800 with an interest rate of 18 percent and only pay the minimum due each month, it will take 22 years to pay the balance. You will pay an additional \$3,800 in interest alone. So your \$1,800 purchase really cost \$5,600. This assumes that not a penny of additional debt is added on the card during those 22 years and all payments are made on time, without a late penalty. It is hard to understand how honest working folks can afford such interest payments and still live normal, decent lives.

The pressure is off our shoulders somewhat on the up-coming tax package vote. At Gulf Shores a couple of weeks ago the governor announced that the success or failure of this vote rested squarely on the shoulders of the newspaper folks in that room. We were sitting close by at the time and it appeared Bob Riley was looking right into our eyes as he made that pronouncement. Now he has reportedly said about the same thing to a group of school administrators and again to a meeting of black ministers. Even though Governor Riley still would like to place the burden on our newspaper folks, he has graciously offered up at least two much needed groups to share the load with us.

We are still wrestling with this issue. It is our nature to want to be FOR something, rather than AGAINST everything. However, it is awful hard to be committed to voting yes on this package of changes and tax increases. Many of the proposals in the bills are badly needed. Others are necessary evils. Yet we have reservations on the package as a whole. Well thought out and needed taxes don't scare us, in fact we editorially supported an amendment increasing the maximum income tax during the term of former Governor Albert Brewer. That amendment failed miserably when put before the voters of Alabama, in spite of our editorial endorsement. However, we have a fear that the many increases in the pending proposal will add up to major cost of living increases for many of the people who are being promised tax cuts to the elderly, low income wage earners, small land owners, etc. The tax increases on business will surely be immediately passed on to the consumer, regardless of that consumer's income level. That includes of course the new service tax, higher income taxes, higher business property tax and other increases caused by elimination of certain deductions (or loopholes as some people refer to them).

We hesitate to add what so many in opposition to the package are saying . . . and that is "we don't trust the politicians in Montgomery to properly handle this additional money". Our answer to that is to suggest replacing the unreliable politician in Montgomery! But until some replacements are made, entirely too many lawmakers might be tempted to view the new taxes as their own personal re-election fund.

Upcoming Benefit:

A benefit for Lexy Rugg, daughter of Amy and Richard Rugg, will be held Saturday, Aug. 9, at the American Legion on the Troy Hwy. in Elba. Lexy is a two-year-old cancer patient. The benefit will be from 4 p.m. until, and fish and BBQ plates will be sold for a \$5 donation. There will be an auction and live entertainment featuring many groups to include: Bureaucracy, Montgomery; Amy and Ray Bundy, Florida; The Gosspelettes, Andalusia; Robert Williamson, Florida; Ron Taylor, Red Level; Dixieland Cloggers and many more. Any items donated for the auction will be greatly appreciated.

THE FOUR WAY TEST

- of the things we Think, Say or Do
- First - Is it the TRUTH?
- Second - Is it FAIR to all concerned?
- Third - Will it build GOOD WILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
- Fourth - Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Compliments of
ELBA ROTARY CLUB

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES
Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$19 per year
6 Months - \$10, including city & state tax
Alabama Counties - \$21 per year - including tax
6 months - \$11
Outside Alabama - \$24 per year - 6 months - \$13

Legislative Session brings changes to Alabama's Abandoned Vehicle Law

There are some important changes concerning Alabama's abandoned vehicle law, effective Sept. 1, which citizens need to know.

According to the Alabama Department of Revenue, the Alabama Legislature recently amended key provisions of Alabama's 1971 abandoned vehicle law by placing certain

Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, July 28, 2003, investigated the following incidents: one possession of marijuana, one possession of drug paraphernalia, two for theft of property, one criminal mischief, two for menacing, one harassment, one disorderly conduct, one resisting arrest, one harassing communications, one burglary and one attempt to commit a controlled substance crime.

The following arrests were made: one for possession of marijuana, one for possession of drug paraphernalia, one for disorderly conduct and one for resisting arrest.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: five for not wearing a seat belt, one for driving with a revoked driver's license, one for running a stop sign, one for speeding and two for no proof of insurance.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows:
MONDAY, JULY 28 - River stage - 6.91 feet (6:18 a.m.); Two-vehicle wreck reported in front of the courthouse (2:31 p.m.); Civil disturbance reported at the intersection of Martin Luther King Dr. and Adams St. (6:00 p.m.); Person reported with gun on Cedar Lane Dr. (7:18 p.m.).

TUESDAY, JULY 29 - River stage - 6.27 feet (6:04 a.m.); Elba Fire Department dispatched to a vehicle fire on Hwy. 189 S. (8:28 a.m.); One vehicle wreck reported on Hwy. 84 (5:09 p.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to the scene of the wreck on Hwy. 84 (5:09 p.m.).

WEDNESDAY, JULY 30 - River stage 8.22 feet (6:00 a.m.); Disturbance reported at a residence on Reese Ave. (7:41 p.m.).

THURSDAY, JULY 31 - River stage - 7.45 feet (6:07 a.m.); Routine activity.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1 - River stage - 8.46 feet (6:00 a.m.); Two-vehicle wreck reported at the intersection of Whitman and N. Claxton Ave. (5:32 p.m.); Disturbance (cloud - music) reported at 716 Putnam St. (11:03 p.m.).

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2 - River stage - 8.67 feet (6:00 a.m.); Alarm activated at 1578 Caroline St. (1:59 p.m.); Alarm activated at Ace Hardware (2:56 p.m.); Loud music reported on Champ McCollough Dr. (9:15 p.m.).

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3 - Prowler reported at 610 Mullins Circle (2:07 a.m.); Report of shots fired in Mulberry (4:09 a.m.); River stage - 8.91 feet (6:20 a.m.); Coffee County EMS dispatched to 133 Hwy. 141 (6:50 a.m.); Disturbance reported at 703 Buford St. (11:30 p.m.).

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disclosure requirements upon anyone offering an abandoned vehicle for sale.

An "abandoned vehicle" refers to a vehicle that has been left by an owner, or some person acting for the owner, with an automobile dealer, repairman or wrecker service for repair or for some other reason and has not been called for by the owner or

other person within a period of 60 days. An "abandoned vehicle" also includes any vehicle, which is left unattended on a public street, road, or highway or other public property for a period of at least seven days; or left unattended continuously for at least seven days in a business or residential district.

The new law, Act 2003-402, becomes effective Sept. 1, 2003, and details specific notification procedures that sellers of abandoned vehicles must follow before a vehicle may be offered for sale. Specifically, the seller must:

• Request the Alabama Department of Revenue (ADOR) to conduct a title search of the abandoned vehicle to determine the current owner of the vehicle and any lienholders of record for the vehicle.

• Notify the owner of record and any lienholders by certified mail of the intent to sell the vehicle under the provisions of Alabama's abandoned vehicle law.

• Publish 10 days prior to the sale a notice advertising the sale in a newspaper of general circulation.

• File a copy of the "Report of Sale" with the register or clerk of the circuit court of the county in which the sales occurs.

• Provide the buyer with a copy of a "Report of Sale" within 10 days from the date of the vehicle's purchase. The purchaser of the vehicle must present the "Report of Sale" and a notarized bill of sale to the county license plate issuing authority in order for the vehicle to be titled and registered in the purchaser's name.

The "Report of Sale" must contain the following information:

- Name and addresses of the owners, secured parties, and lienholders of record.

For more information concerning Alabama's abandoned vehicle law and recent changes in the law, contact the Motor Vehicle Division at (334) 242-9000 or visit the department's Web site at www.ador.state.al.us.

Elba Chamber of Commerce

Calendar of Events and Meetings

- August 2003**
- Aug. 1** - Back to School for teachers at Elba City Schools
 - Aug. 5** - First Day of School for Elba City Schools; Elba Rotary Club meeting
 - Aug. 6** - Azalea Garden Club meeting
 - Aug. 8** - Coffee County Farm City Week's first committee meeting
 - Aug. 11** - Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting for Elba's Subway at 11 a.m.; Elba City Council meeting
 - Aug. 12** - Elba Rotary Club meeting
 - Aug. 18** - Fall Semester begins at Troy State
 - Aug. 19** - Elba Rotary Club meeting; New Seasons Study Club meeting
 - Aug. 21** - Elba Chamber of Commerce Board meeting; Ribbon Cutting for William P. Dean, CPA, at 1 p.m.; Elba's Foggy Bottom Classic
 - Aug. 23** - "Celebrate Elba 150" presents George Jones in concert at Miller
 - Memorial Stadium** - **Aug. 25** - Elba City Council meeting
 - Aug. 26** - Elba Rotary Club meeting
 - September 2003**
 - Sept. 1** - Labor Day
 - Sept. 2** - Elba Rotary Club meeting
 - Sept. 3** - Azalea Garden Club meeting
 - Sept. 6** - "Celebrate Elba 150" Sesquicentennial Ball
 - Sept. 8** - Elba City Council meeting
 - Sept. 9** - Tax Election; Elba Rotary Club meeting
 - Sept. 11** - Patriot Day
 - Sept. 16** - Elba Rotary Club meeting; New Season's Study Club meeting to be held at NEW Elba Chamber of Commerce office
 - Sept. 18** - "Celebrate Elba 150" Chamber Banquet
 - Sept. 22** - Elba City Council meeting
 - Sept. 23** - Autumn begins; Elba Rotary Club meeting
 - Sept. 30** - Elba Rotary Club meeting
 - October 2003**
 - Oct. 1** - Azalea Garden Club meeting
 - Oct. 7** - Elba Rotary Club meeting
 - Oct. 9** - "Celebrate Elba 150" History of Elba Play
 - Oct. 10** - "Celebrate Elba 150" Prayer Breakfast; "150" T-shirt Day; & Merchant Appreciation Day
 - Oct. 11** - "Celebrate Elba 150" Grand Celebration & Parade
 - Oct. 12** - "Celebrate Elba 150" Reception
 - Oct. 13** - Columbus Day
 - Oct. 14** - Elba Rotary Club meeting; Elba City Council meeting
 - Oct. 16** - New Season's Study Club meeting
 - Oct. 21** - Elba Rotary Club meeting
 - Oct. 26** - Daylight Savings Time ends
 - Oct. 27** - Elba City Council meeting
 - Oct. 28** - Elba Rotary Club meeting
 - Oct. 30** - Elba Chamber of Commerce presents "Pumpkins on the Square"
 - Oct. 31** - Halloween; Elba High School Homecoming

Now on Sale at the Chamber Office:

- Elba Car Tags - \$5.00
- Chamber Membership Fees - \$5.00
- 2002 Elba Christmas Ornament - \$4.00 (each)
- Hand Towels featuring the Historic County Courthouse - \$10.00
- City of Elba featuring Elba landmarks - \$10.00

"Celebrate Elba 150" Items:

- T-shirts - \$15.00
- Taper Pins - \$3.00
- Business - \$25.00 (Plain or \$80.00 (With Name))
- George Jones Concert Tickets - \$10.00 (Reserved Seating in the Standee or \$15.00 General Admission)

Elba Chamber of Commerce (334) 897-3125

Kaye Whitworth, executive director

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

I am writing this editorial as a thank you to all my friends, neighbors and the whole community for their support in Danny's and my grief in the loss of our son Jason on July 20th. I do not think either one of us could have made it in this our darkest hour without the support of everyone. I cannot name everyone in this article because it would be too long. Please know that we will be there for them if they ever need anything from either of us.

Your prayers and support are what gave us the strength to make it from hour to hour. Everyone did so much from holding us while we cried to picking up friends at the airport. We heard from people we did not know who thanked us for our son's sacrifice.

Our casualty officer was Capt. Von Hagen and our public affairs officer was Lt. Col. Bullinger. They went above and beyond their duties to help us understand everything that was going on and to comfort us.

Danny and I are very proud of our community for the way they support our troops and continue to pray daily for their safe return from this war. Please remember upon their return to stop and say thank you for putting your life on the line for our freedom and our country. My personal prayer is that no other parent has to know the pain of losing a child.

Again thanks to all the people who were there for us to lean on during our time of need.

Sincerely,
Danny and Sandra Jordan

Dear Editor,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Elba Volunteer Fire Department. On June 26, twelve fire fighters set out to raise money for MDA, "Jerry's Kids".

Now, this is an annual event for the fire department, however, this year it took on a new meaning. The City of Elba lost a hero on June 20, 2003. Sgt. Jason D. Jordan lost his life in Iraq fighting for our country. This tragedy really hit home with the Elba Fire Department because Jason's dad, Danny, is one of their own. The department chose to go ahead with the annual "Boot Drive" and collect donations in memory of Jason. They were able to raise over \$2,000 in his memory.

MDA and the clients we serve are very appreciative of their commitment. Jason lost his life at a very early age but thanks to the help of the Elba Fire Fighters, other young lives may be saved.

Again, we thank the Elba Fire Department and the Elba community for their support of the

Fall semester begins Aug. 21 at EOCC

Enterprise Ozark Community College's fall semester and the first semester to include the newly-merged Ozark Aviation Campus and Mobile Aviation Center will enroll August 21. Registration is open, and students may begin in person or on-line at www.eocc.edu. To register on the internet, students MUST have a Personal Identification Number (PIN), which should be assigned to them by an EOCC counselor. For more information about registering for classes or how to be admitted to the College, call 334-347-2623, ext. 2234 at the Enterprise Campus, 334-598-

3438 at the Ft. Rucker Site, 334-774-6399, ext. 3657 at the Ozark Aviation Campus, and 251-438-2816 at the Mobile Aviation Center.

"Celebrate Elba 150"

Upcoming Events

August 23
George Jones Concert

September 6
"Sesquicentennial" Ball

September 18
Chamber Banquet "150"

October 9
"The History of Elba" Play

October 10
Prayer Breakfast / "150"

October 11
T-shirt Day / Merchant Appreciation Day

October 12
Grand Celebration Reception

MDA. Our thoughts and prayers are with Danny Jordan and his family. Sincerely,
Debbie Sutton
Program Coordinator, MDA

Dear Editor,

The Wiregrass Chapter of the American Society of Military Controllors would like to thank members of the surrounding community for their support of our second annual community service and scholarship golf tournament. Additionally, we extend our thanks to all the local business that donated incentive prizes for the event. The proceeds from this activity go towards the Chapter's scholarship program as well as local and national charities. It was an extremely successful event and would not have been possible without the generosity and kindness of the people in the Wiregrass area.

Respectfully,
Floyd E. Rodgers
President, Wiregrass Chapter ASMC

Dear Editor,

It is with great pleasure that I announce a new specialty license plate which has been approved by the Alabama Department of Motor Vehicles. Entitled Curing Childhood Cancer, this license plate will raise funds for pediatric cancer research being conducted at the UAB Section of Pediatric Oncology located at The Children's Hospital. I have worked closely with Dr. Robert Castleberry, head of pediatric oncology at UAB, to design and implement the circulation of this tag, which has the potential to raise significant funds to support the clinical and laboratory cancer research programs of the Section. Out of only \$50 cost of each tag, \$41.25 will go directly to the UAB Division of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology at the Children's Hospital, earmarked for pediatric cancer research.

Many specialty car tags are approved each year, but only a few actually go into circulation since the Department of Motor Vehicles requires the thousands of commitments before the tag can go into production. We have only one calendar year from the time the tag is approved to reach this goal. This is where we need your help.

This is a wonderful opportunity for us to show our support and dedication to finding a cure for childhood cancer. It will take all of us working together to help initiate the production of this tag and I appreciate any help that you can give us.

Sincerely,
Deidre Downs

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"Celebrate Elba 150"

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September 18
Chamber Banquet "150"

October 9
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October 10
Prayer Breakfast / "150"

October 11
T-shirt Day / Merchant Appreciation Day

October 12
Grand Celebration Reception

October 13
Columbus Day

October 14
Elba Rotary Club meeting; Elba City Council meeting

October 16
New Season's Study Club meeting

October 21
Elba Rotary Club meeting

October 26
Daylight Savings Time ends

October 27
Elba City Council meeting

October 28
Elba Rotary Club meeting

October 30
Elba Chamber of Commerce presents "Pumpkins on the Square"

October 31
Halloween; Elba High School Homecoming

November 1
Thanksgiving

November 2
Veterans Day

November 3
Lincoln's Birthday

November 4
Armistice Day

Dear Editor:

Alabama newspapers have started labeling Alabama's anti-tax citizens as "big landowners and timber interests" because these groups contribute to the anti-tax efforts. I welcome the support of all Big Mules and other ornery critters if their money will help the public understand how badly this tax increase treats Alabama families.

At least anti-tax citizens don't have the audacity to use taxes to illegally campaign for tax increases. I hope newspapers will use as much ink calling for investigations of state employees who illegally use tax dollars to promote the Sept. 9 referendum (such as the thousands of non-elected government employees who, on taxpayer time and at taxpayer expense, met at Wallace State for a pro-tax pep rally with Governor Riley). Alabama Code Section 17-17 is clear. It is a criminal offense for non-elected government workers to "use any state, county, or city funds, property or time for any political activities."

Their open disregard for Alabama law makes one wonder if any accountability measures have really been implemented. As for me, I own no acreage and no timber. I own one house and the subdivision lot it sits on. I oppose this tax increase because it is excessive. Its benefits are greatly exaggerated. It treats the symptoms of bad budget management; it does not address the disease. It hurts the ability of Alabama families to take care of their own needs. And it will only be followed by demands for even more tax increases.

Sincerely,
Mo Brooks

former Alabama Legislator (1982-1991); former Madison County D.A. (1991-1993); Madison City Commissioner (1996 to date)

Express your views

Write a letter to the editor

Card of thanks

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Obituaries

HOWARD C. LASSETER
Mr. Howard C. Lasseter age 82, of the Mixon Crossroads Community, died July 30, 2003 in the Medical Center Enterprise in Enterprise.

Funeral services were held August 1, 2003 at the Old Tabernacle United Methodist Church with Rev. Lee Jones and Dr. Rex Mixon officiating. Burial followed in the church cemetery with Searcy Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include his wife Wynelle Godwin Lasseter, Mixon Crossroads Community; one daughter and son-in-law, Suzanne and Adam Feiner, Enterprise, Ala.; one son and daughter-in-law, Chris and Julie Lasseter, Dothan, Ala.; one sister and brother-in-law, Hazel and Robert Haag, Lantana, Fla.; and four grandsons.

NANCY OLIVE (KIMBRO) TURNER

CHURCH & AREA NEWS

Rev. Wilson to speak at Mt. Vernon Homecoming services

Mt. Vernon Assembly of God will celebrate Homecoming services August 10, 2003. Bro. Wilson of Montgomery will be the guest speaker. A covered dish lunch will be served after the morning service. Psalms Four of Enterprise will sing in the afternoon. Everyone is invited to attend. Mt. Vernon is located on County Rd 330.

Johns Chapel A.M.E. Church outreach ministry to present "Pastors in Praise" Concert

Johns Chapel A.M.E. Church Outreach Ministry presents "Pastors in Praise" Concert featuring Reverend Ronald Haynes, Pastor of St. John A.M.E. Church, Reverend Eddie Lewis Engman, pastor of Oak Grove Missionary Baptist Church, Reverend T.W. Parker, Sr. Pastor of Johns Chapel

A.M.E. Church on Sunday, August 10th 2003 5:00 p.m. Johns Chapel A.M.E. Church 841 Geneva Highway, Enterprise, Alabama. Everyone is invited to attend! For more information contact Betty Simmons, 347-9288 Felicia Britt, 347-7591 or Allie Bell-Reddick, 347-8360.

God's Glory Gospel Jubilee to be held in Andalusia on August 9

God's Glory Gospel Jubilee will be held on Saturday, August 9th at the Kiwanis Building in Andalusia. This Christian festival will combine gospel music with arts and crafts, antiques and collectibles for a day of fun for all. Gates will open at 10 a.m. and the gospel singing will begin at 11 a.m. and go until. Concessions will be available. Charge is \$5.00 per person. Children 12 & under get in free.

NOTICE

As Of 7/7/03 Lena Farris will no longer be responsible for Bethlehem Cemetery Fund.

COFFEE COUNTY ARTS ALLIANCE

Invites You To Attend the 2003-2004 Season

The Belle of Amherst Free Season Opener	Aug 17, 2003 • 2:30 PM Enterprise St. Luke UM Church
Atlanta Pops Orchestra An Adventure in Music	Sep 25, 2003 • 7:30 PM Enterprise HS Auditorium
Letters From the Front A Patriotic Evening	Oct 28, 2003 • 7:30 PM Elba HS Auditorium
Boomers 40's - 70's Song & Dance	Jan 9, 2004 • 7:30 PM Enterprise HS Auditorium
Dallas Brass Dixieland, Swing & Broadway	Feb 20, 2004 • 7:30 PM Enterprise HS Auditorium
Piney Woods Arts Festival Arts, Crafts, Fun, & Food	Apr 17 & 18, 2004 Enterprise-Ozark Comm College

ROUND & ABOUT WITH ERIA 897-2006

Scripture: Revelations 11:20
***Thinking of you, praying for you: The Brooks, McDaniel, Harris and Wilkerson families, Rev. Charles Lane, Rev. Parks, Rev. Henry Ewing, Jr., Rev. E. Magwood, Mattie Belcher, O.B. Daniels, John E. Folmar, Versie Barnes, Kary Nell Horstead, Lizzie Tyson, Johnnie Ruth Bell-Reddick, 347-8360.

Benefit to be held for Lexy Rugg Saturday, August 9

A benefit will be held for Lexy Rugg, daughter of Amy and Richard Rugg. Lexy is a two-year-old cancer patient. The benefit will be held on Sat. August 9, 2003 at American Legion on Troy Hwy. in Elba, Ala. beginning at 4 p.m. until. Fish and BBQ plates will be sold for \$5.00 donation. There will be an auction and live entertainment. Featuring many groups including: Bureaucracy.

Parker Reunion planned for Saturday, August 9th

The Parker Reunion will be held Saturday, August 9, 2003 beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Farm Center in New Brockton. Attendees are asked to bring a covered dish and a beverage. Bring family history information and pictures.

Damascus School Reunion set for Saturday, August 9th

The annual Damascus School Reunion will be held August 9, 2003 beginning at 10:30 a.m. on the site of the old school building on County Rd 514 and corner of State Road 87. This is the site of the Damascus Senior Citizens Building. Bring a covered dish with serving utensil and a beverage. Ice, plates, and cups will be available. Bring articles for door prizes, auctions, and pictures to share with the group.

"The Belle of Amherst" to be presented at St. Luke's United Methodist Church

The Coffee County Arts Alliance 2003-2004 Season event will be "The Belle of Amherst" to be presented at St. Luke's United Methodist Church on Sunday, August 17, at 2:30 p.m.

"The Belle of Amherst" is a one-woman play based on the writings of Emily Dickinson and will be performed by Margaret Byrd Wingate, a native of Enterprise and teacher at Enterprise High School. Margaret Byrd Wingate first became interested in theater arts as a high school student at EHS during the 1960s. After graduating from Birmingham Southern College, she moved to New York City where she worked in the administrative offices of the Julliard Theater Center and at CBS television. Prior to moving back to Enterprise in 1985, she also worked with theater companies in Massachusetts and

Haven to be in concert at Klondyke Gospel Music Center

Haven, from Birmingham, Ala., will make their Wiregrass Area debut in concert, Saturday, August 9th, 7:00 p.m., at the Klondyke Gospel Music Center.

Homecoming planned at Jack Assembly of God Church for August 17th

Jack Assembly of God will celebrate Homecoming on Sunday, August 17th. Sunday School, 10:00 a.m. The Gospels, Atlanta; Robert Williamson, Florida; Ron Taylor, Red Level; Dixieland Cloggers and many more. Donations are greatly appreciated. Any items donated for the auction will be greatly appreciated.

"Back to School" Youth Explosion 2003 planned at Johns A.M.E. Church

Johns Girls, INC. & Johns Chapel A.M.E. Church Youth Department Presents A "Back To School" Youth Explosion 2003 Johns Chapel A.M.E. Church 841 Geneva Highway Enterprise, Alabama Reverend T.W. Parker, Sr. Pastor Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday August 11-13, 2003 - 6:00 p.m. Grades K-12th are invited to attend. There will be nightly activities motivational speakers - teen/adult "FREE" back to school supplies, snacks & -

For more information contact Brianna Simmons, 347-4627 NIKKI MILLS, 308-2906 or Desiree Greenwood, 308-1999 Allie Bell-Reddick, Johns Girls Advisor, 347-8360 or Felicia Britt, Youth Advisor -347-7591.

LBW

LURLEEN B. WALLACE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MACARTHUR CAMPUS

1708 N. MAIN ST. QPR, AL

Upholstery/Designing Interiors

Do you have an eye for color, enjoy making things, like to rearrange furniture or redesign rooms? Then the Upholstery/Designing Interiors program at LBW Community College in Op is where you need to be! Train for a new career in which you can set your own hours, be your own boss and charge what you are worth!

Fall Semester Orientation & Registration August 14, 2003 493-3573

LBW Community College is an equal opportunity institution/employer.

Church Directory

IN HIM WAS LIFE AND THE LIFE WAS THE LIGHT OF MEN ALBERTSON BAPTIST CHURCH Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Service.....7:00 p.m. BASIN BAPTIST CHURCH Rev. Sam Totten, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Prayer Service.....7:00 p.m. BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH Elda Phillips-Copes, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH Elda Phillips-Copes, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH Elda Phillips-Copes, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. Service.....6:00 p.m. Wed. Bible Study.....7:00 p.m. BETHLEHEM BAPTIST CHURCH Elda Phillips-Copes, Pastor Sunday School.....10:00 a.m. Morn. Worship.....11:00 a.m. Even. 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COMMUNITY NEWS

TOWN (Continued from Page One)

town and its appearance.

"This is a community-wide effort and we appreciate it so much," McMonagle said.

Upon the request of Mayor Cole, the council approved borrowing \$10,000 for three months to help with finances. The mayor said he feels this will get the town through September barring any unforeseen costs since the cable franchise money will start coming in October.

Council member Vicky Harrison made a motion with a second from council member Johnnie Herron to borrow \$10,000 to get through September since the franchise money will be coming in October. This motion passed with all voting in favor except

council member McMonagle.

In other business, the council voted to change its regular meeting for September to Monday, Sept. 8, since the town offices will be closed Monday, Sept. 1, in observance of the Labor Day holiday.

* Voted to accept bids for the sale of a 1994 Chevrolet Caprice formerly used as a police car by the town. The bids will be opened at the next council meeting.

* Approved purchasing a full page ad in the New Brockton High School football program for \$100. This cost will be split between the Town of New Brockton and the New Brockton Water Board.

WNV (Continued from Page One)

quitos in Marshall and Lee counties; in two horses, one each in Baldwin and Mobile counties; and in 29 birds distributed among Baldwin, Blount, Clay, Covington, Dallas, DeKalb, Jefferson, Macon, Marshall, Mobile, Shelby, Talladega, Walker and Winston counties.

Eastern Equine Encephalitis virus has been detected in mosquitoes in Jackson County; in an emu in Butler County; in sentinel chickens in Baldwin County; and in eight horses distributed among Baldwin, Chilton, Clarke, Covington, Dale and Mobile counties.

In 2002 Alabama experienced 49 human cases of West Nile virus infection, three of which were fatal. The last time a human case of Eastern Equine Encephalitis occurred was in 1996, in a man that died.

Both viruses in humans cause a spectrum of illness ranging from infection without any symptoms to encephalitis involving fever, headache, and possibly confusion, disorientation, stupor, tremors, convulsions, paralysis, coma and death. Eastern Equine Encephalitis in humans can have a mortality rate as high as 30 percent, considerably higher than that seen with West Nile encephalitis.

The Alabama Department of Public Health will continue its efforts to inform the public about the importance of personal protection measures individuals can take to reduce their risks of being bitten by infected mosquitoes.

To lower the risk of being bitten by mosquitoes, persons should remember the 5 D's of Prevention: Dusk, Dawn, Dress, DEET and Drain. Avoid being outside during dawn and dusk when mosquitoes are most active. Dress to cover your skin

with protective clothing. Protect bare skin with mosquito repellent that contains DEET, and drain empty containers holding stagnant water in which mosquitoes breed.

Avoiding mosquito bites and eliminating mosquito-breeding sites will help protect individuals and the community from West Nile virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis and the other mosquito-borne viruses that occur in Alabama. These viruses are maintained by However, sometimes the viruses spread to humans and other animals by mosquitoes that feed on infected birds and then bite humans and other animals. People contribute to the continuing cycle of these viruses by maintaining environments (especially standing water) in which mosquitoes can lay eggs.

These mosquito-borne viruses are not spread person-to-person, horse-to-person, or horse-to-horse. A person or animal is usually infected through the bite of an infected mosquito. The key to protection is avoiding mosquito bites.

Very few mosquitoes are infectious. Most people who are infected do not get sick. In some individuals, these viruses can cause a serious illness called encephalitis, which is an inflammation of the brain. People with encephalitis are sick enough that they will seek medical care and be hospitalized. The seriousness of an illness may depend on a person's health and age. West Nile virus affects the elderly most severely and Eastern Equine Encephalitis is most severe in both the young and the elderly.

Information about West Nile virus can be found on the ADPH Web site at <http://www.adph.org/westnile-virus/>.

Elba's George Jones concert set for Saturday, August 23

The City of Elba, the Elba Chamber of Commerce and the Sesquicentennial Committee will celebrate Elba's 150th Anniversary in a big way on Saturday, Aug. 23, as legendary country music artist George Jones will be performing at Miller Memorial Stadium in downtown Elba.

Gates will open at 5 p.m. The opening act, featuring Elba's own Rob Hudson, will perform at 6:30 p.m., and Jones will take

center stage at 8 p.m.

Tickets remain on sale and can be purchased for reserved seats on the field, reserved seats in the stands, or general admission.

All price levels will increase by \$3 on the day of the concert.

All tickets can be purchased at the Elba Chamber of Commerce office. Mail-ins are also accepted - these orders should include number of tickets, section, payment and a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Kelley Foods of Alabama holds company picnic

Kelley Foods of Alabama, Inc. held a company picnic for employees and family Saturday, July 19, at Legion Field.

The kids and adults alike enjoyed the fun filled day playing volleyball, softball and enjoying the Velcro wall, Bungee Run, and Bounce House provided for entertainment. Everyone joined in on the traditional picnic style meal hamburgers, hotdogs, and all the fixin's.

It was a great chance for everyone to mingle, get to know a little more about each other, and to generally have a great time together away from work. Check out these pictures!



AUM to sponsor one-day seminar Wed., Aug. 27

Auburn University Montgomery will sponsor a one-day seminar titled "Super-Profitable Techniques for Collecting Accounts Receivable" from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. August 27.

The seminar is for companies who collect their own accounts and prefer not to use collection agencies. The cost is \$149 per person. When three or more enroll from the same company, the fourth person attends for Free.

The seminar will be held at AUM, Goodwyn Hall, Montgomery, AL. Call 1-800-538-4595.

Shop the Classifieds!
Shop the Classifieds!
Shop the Classifieds!

Recent legislation clarifies "Remote Entity Nexus"

A new act effective Friday will make it easier for state and local governments in Alabama to collect the proper taxes on products delivered to customers in Alabama.

Act 2003-390, effective Aug. 1, 2003, outlines the conditions which establish a foreign business' physical presence (or "nexus") in Alabama, thereby requiring the business to collect and remit state and local use tax. Additionally, the new law defines the relationship between two related entities—an out-of-state vendor and an in-state business—which would result in the out-of-state vendor being required to collect and remit state and local taxes to Alabama.

"With Alabama's fiscal crisis and the revenue loss of uncollected sales tax from Internet transactions, there is an increasing need for clarifying a state of nexus between a remote seller and an in-state business," explained State Revenue Commissioner Dwight Carlisle.

"This significant legislation is another step toward the department's goal of promoting taxpayer compliance with Alabama's sales and use tax laws."

The new law is patterned after legislation passed in other states, which are also struggling to collect taxes on the growing amount of retail transactions

being conducted via the Internet and catalog sales. The legislation was sponsored in the House by Rep. Betty Carol Graham and in the Senate by Sen. Hank Sanders.

The following criteria will determine if the relationship between the entities of an out-of-state vendor and an in-state business establishes a substantial physical presence, or nexus:

*If an out-of-state vendor and an in-state business maintaining one or more locations are related parties;

*If they share an identical or substantially similar name, trade name, trademark, or goodwill, to develop, promote, or maintain sales;

*If they pay for each other's services in whole or in part contingent upon the volume or value of sales;

*If they share a common business plan or substantially coordinate their business plans;

*If the in-state business provides services to the out-of-state vendor related to developing, promoting or maintaining the in-state market, resulting in benefit to the out-of-state vendor.

The following criteria determine whether the entities of an out-of-state vendor and an in-state business are considered "related parties":

*If one or both is a corporation, and one entity and any

party related to that entity in a manner requiring an attribution of stock from the corporation to the party or from the party to the corporation under the attribution rules of Sec. 318, Internal Revenue Service Code, owns directly, indirectly, beneficially, or constructively, at least 50% of the value of the corporation's outstanding stock;

*If one or both is a limited liability company, partnership, estate or trust, and any member, partner or beneficiary and the limited liability company, partnership, estate or trust and its members, partners and beneficiaries own directly, indirectly, beneficially, or constructively,

in the aggregate, at least 50% of the profits, or capital, or stock, or value of the other entity, or both entities.

*If an individual stockholder and higher family members as defined in Section 318 of the Internal Revenue Code own directly, indirectly, beneficially, or constructively, in the aggregate, at least 50% of the value of both entities' outstanding stock.

For more information concerning Alabama's determination of remote entity nexus, contact the Sales, Use and Business Tax Division at (334) 242-1490 or visit the department's Web site at www.ador.state.al.us.

Bridal Registry

Misty Perry & Jamie Whitworth
Shower: 7/27/03 Wedding: 9/27/03
Arina Head & Rex Oggs
Shower: 9/7/03 Wedding: 10/11/03
Michelle Lewis & Ralph Utz
Shower: August 24 Wedding: 10/25/03

Briar Patch
Garden & Gift Shoppe
On the Square • Downtown Elba
897-8591

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YOUR QUALITY CONSIGNMENTS!

Denise's Hair & Nail Salon
will soon become:

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Hair • Nails • Tanning • Quality Consignments

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help getting ready!

Specializing in formal gowns
and heirloom dresses

All sizes accepted!

114 North Claxton Avenue Elba, Alabama

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL MELISSA
334-897-5610 or 897-8827

**GRAND
OPENING**

RIBBON CUTTING 11:00 A.M.
MONDAY, AUGUST 11

SUBWAY
IN ELBA

New Owner: Mike Hall
New Manager:
Theresa Chandler
& Crew: Sabrina, Jesse,
Reese, Tracy, Ayonna and
Brandon

Located at
1698 Hickman Ave., Elba
897-8462

Door
Prizes

The *FACTS* about Alabama's Plan for Progress

Alabama's school children, working families and senior citizens will finally get a break.



FACT:

More than 60% of all Alabamians will pay the same or less in state income and property taxes. Combined with the federal tax cuts, more than 85% will pay the same or less.

FACT:

Our tax system will finally be fair for everyone. Alabama's average working families will get tax cuts, while giant out-of-state corporations, big landowners and huge timber companies will finally pay their fair share.

FACT:

New tax dollars will be spent in the classroom on reading, math and science programs that get proven results. Teachers will get more training and school days will be added to increase learning time for our children. Every child will have textbooks, better libraries, the supplies they need, and the best technologies for learning.

FACT:

Deserving students will be able to earn free college scholarships, opening the door to a better quality of life for our children and grandchildren.

FACT:

Strong new laws included in The Plan for Progress will make sure our money is spent wisely and used where it is needed most. For the first time, those who allow taxpayer money to be spent on pass-through pork projects will go to jail. And, accounting fraud committed by any school official will carry criminal penalties.

FACT:

Our senior citizens will be protected. Pension funds now exempt will remain tax free. For the first time ever, income from pension benefits like IRAs and 401(k)s will be exempt up to \$40,000. Seniors over 65 will remain exempt from all state property taxes on their home. And, critical services like Alabama's prescription drug program and nursing home care will be protected from devastating cuts.

Giant out-of-state corporations, big landowners and huge timber companies don't want you to know the facts or the truth about The Plan for Progress. That's why they're spending millions of dollars on television and radio ads that The Birmingham News called a campaign of "Distortion, Denial and Deceit."

The time has come for these wealthy special interests to finally pay their fair share so Alabama's working families can get the tax breaks they deserve and services they need.

Vote YES on September 9th.
Vote YES for real change and a better future.

Paid for by Alabama Partnership for Progress • 2 North Jackson Street • Montgomery, AL 36104

Last Chance this Year!

English Photography will be running a special Beach Photo Promotion during Labor Day weekend. Schedule an appointment for yourself, your children, or your whole family for what is sure to be the most unique portrait experience of your life. Appointments are limited, so call today! (And be sure to tell your friends!)

English Photography
(334)897-8777 or 897-6233

SPORTS

Views from.... THE PRESSBOX By Ricky Mulzars, Sports Editor

We took Melanie shopping for school clothes over the weekend and found out that waiting until the weekend before school starts to do your shopping is even worse than waiting until the day before Christmas to do your holiday shopping. All the stores were packed with other last-minute shoppers like us, and finding a place to park was even worse. I know you can't teach an old dog new tricks, but you can believe that next year this old dog will get at least some of the shopping done weeks in advance.

FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH...

*** Elba High School held its annual "Picture Day" last Friday afternoon and when I found out the pictures would be made at 3:00 PM the first thing that popped into my mind was all the afternoon thunderstorms that had drenched South Alabama for the past couple of weeks. Sure enough, about thirty-minutes before time to head out to the field a storm hit and for the first time in years the pictures had to be made in the gym. The coaches and cheerleader sponsors did a great job reorganizing the picture-taking after moving inside, and we were all finished in just over an hour; but you know the coaches hated to make the pictures inside. If you believe in omens, that had to be one!

*** All I had heard all summer was how small and under-manned the Elba Tigers would be this season, but after making pictures of the team last week I would have to say that the Tigers look pretty good in uniform and have good size and appear to have depth at most positions. I know the team is inexperienced at some key positions, but at other positions the Tigers really look solid and after one afternoon with the team I am confident that the 2003 Elba Tigers may just surprise some folks. I will share more with you next week after the team goes out in pads for a few days and holds a short scrimmage late in the week. Hopefully this time next week I will be even more optimistic.

The schedules for all the area football teams are in the paper this week and while Elba is facing the same killer schedule it did last season, the other teams appear to have schedules with which they can post at least their share of wins. Included on Elba's schedule are the team ranked #1 (T.R. Miller) and #2 (Pike County) in the 3A preseason poll, while Brantley (12th in 1A), W.S. Neal (19th in 3A), Luverne (9th in 2A), and Straughn (13th in 3A) are also ranked. There is no doubt the Tigers will have to buckle their chin straps tight each and every week this season if they want to simply survive. New Brockton's schedule includes three of the top twenty-five teams in the 2A ranks in #4 Slocomb, #5 Houston Academy and #22 Red Level, but the Gamecocks will also face three other teams that combined to post a 1-29 record last season in Zion Chapel (0-10), Florala (1-9) and Geneva County (0-10). Brantley was the class of the local 1A region last year and should be again, since Cottonwood was the only other team in the region that even posted a winning record. Included among the other teams are Kinston and Zion Chapel, which should give both county teams hopes for at least their share of wins.

*** I have heard a lot of nicknames for both coaches and players over the years, but this year when people call Daleville's new girls basketball coach "The Mayor," they will be telling a truth. Since the new coach, who is New Brockton's Mayor Charles Cole, Coach Cole moved into the mayor's chair after serving on the City Council for sixteen years over in New Brockton, but last week came out of retirement to take over the coaching duties at Daleville. He will be a volunteer coach with the Warhaws and will still be found around City Hall during the mornings, but once basketball season comes you can bet there will be a VCR hooked up in his office along with basketball charts as he prepares to head over to practice. I think it is great that Coach Cole is headed back into coaching. However, despite being retired he helped his wife Barbara coach the girls team at New Brockton for the past ten years, and now that she has retired from coaching he is headed back. Hey folks, do y'all have a TV at the house?

*** In closing...the college football season is just around the corner and it is interesting to hear everyone brag about how good Auburn is going to be, except the Auburn fans. Many of the fans still have doubts about Coach Tommy Tuberville's abilities to lead a team to an SEC title, much less a national title, and just take a deep breath whenever the Tigers are mentioned as a national power. I guess we will all find out pretty soon, since Southern Cal is coming to town in just a matter of weeks.

ELBA CITY POOL OPEN
WEEKENDS THROUGH AUGUST 31
SATURDAY 12:00 - 6:00
SUNDAY 1:00 - 5:00

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Installation • Repairs • Upgrades
Call Toll Free 888-569-9600 ask for Phil
We Will Not Dig Up Your Lawn To Install a
Sprinkler System using Our Modern Techniques
Local Company with 40 Years experience
Free Estimates

LBW FALL REGISTRATION
3 Locations 1 College
Lurleen B. Wallace Community College
REGISTRATION
Thursday, August 14, 2003
Andalusia 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Greenville 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
MacArthur 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Classes Begin
August 18, 2003
Late Registration &
Drop/Add
August 15-20, 2003
Andalusia 222-6591 (ext. 2271) • Greenville 382-2159 (ext. 3101) • MacArthur 493-3573 (ext. 235)

Sites of games are only changes

Schedules remain the same as 2003 high school football season nears

The beginning of the 2003 high school football season is only four Fridays away, and as area fans begin to mark their calendars for the next three months, the teams on the schedules will be the same as last season, with only the sites of the games to change.

The Alabama High School Athletic Association places teams in regions for a two-year period, and since this will be the second year of that time period, schedules will change only where each week's games will be played.

Following is a preview of this season's high school football schedules for area teams:

ELBA TIGERS

The Elba Tigers struggled to a 5-5 record last season in what was arguably the toughest region in the state regardless of classification, and while a new season is only weeks away and hopes are running high on the Tiger practice field, the 2003 schedule is simply a carbon copy of last year's slate and might be even tougher than a year ago.

The Tigers open the season on August 29 on the road against the Brantley Bulldogs, a 1A power that was blanketed by Elba 13-0 in last year's season opener, then return home on September 5 to open region action against the Central Lions of Hayneville, a team that the Tigers manhandled 40-14 last season. Elba will head to East Brewton on September 12 for a region clash with the W.S. Neal Eagles, a team that defeated the Tigers 28-14 last year and is expected to be a serious state title contender. In week #4 the

Tigers will be back at home and will host the Pike County Bulldogs. The Bulldogs handed Elba a 39-20 setback last season, and when they invade Tiger Stadium on September 19, the 'Dogs will be looking to take a giant step forward toward a possible state championship. On September 26 Elba will travel to Luverne to continue its oldest football rivalry when the Tigers challenge the Luverne Tigers of Coach Mike Dubose. The Tigers from Coffee County handed Luverne a 17-14 loss last season, but many feel the 2A Tigers from Crenshaw County are loaded this season and could threaten for the 2A title. On October 3 Elba's Tigers will pack their bags for a trip down to Brewton to tangle with the defending state champion T.R. Miller Tigers. Elba lost to T.R. Miller 27-9 a year ago, and convinced this year's team may be its best ever, and Elba will face a true challenge when the season reaches week #6. The Tigers will find the level of competition just as rugged on October 10 when they return home for a region battle against the Straughn Tigers. Straughn defeated Elba 7-0 last season and made big noise in its initial season as a 3A team. This season the Covington County Tigers are looking to advance even deeper into the playoffs. Elba will head into the woods of Lowndes County in week #8 of the season as the Tigers battle the Calhoun Tigers in yet another

region encounter. Calhoun, which lost to the Tigers 47-6 last year, has struggled recently on the gridiron, but won the state title in basketball last season and is hoping that winning attitude will shift over to the football field this season. Elba will close out region play on October 24 when they host the Clarke County Bulldogs, and all Elba fans will be hoping that the Tigers will be able to better last year's 58-20 loss to the Bulldogs, in the massacre at Grove Hill. The season finale on October 31 will have the Tigers celebrating homecoming against the Geneva County Bulldogs. Elba whipped the 'Dogs 46-13 last season, but will face a much improved team this time around, and will find the competition in week #10 just as tough as in weeks before.

With opponents such as Brantley (9-3), W.S. Neal (6-4), Pike County (11-2), Luverne (8-4), T.R. Miller (11-3), Straughn (8-3), and Clarke County (5-5) on this year's schedule, it is easy to see that nothing will come easy for the Elba Tigers in 2003!

NEW BROCKTON GAMECOCKS

The New Brockton Gamecocks posted a 7-4 record last season and paid a visit to the 2A state playoffs for the first time in years, and the Gamecocks and their fans are looking forward to the 2003 season with hopes that even more wins will be logged on the Gamecocks' side of the ledger.

New Brockton will kick off this year's schedule on Aug. 29 at home against the Zion Chapel Rebels. The Rebels stumbled on an 0-10 record last season, but have a new coach and a new dedication to the game, and will be looking to avenge last year's 48-0 loss when they line up against their cross-county rivals.

New Brockton will remain at home in week #2 action on Sept. 5 and will open region play against the Red Level Tigers, a team that handed the Gamecocks a 47-28 whipping last season, while on Sept. 12 the Gamecocks will hit the road for an encounter with the Samson Tigers in another region battle. The Gamecocks blanked the Tigers 13-0 a year ago, but this year will be in Samson and should find a stiff test awaiting. The fourth week of the season will find the Gamecocks in Dothan for a region contest against the Houston Academy Raiders, a team that handed New Brockton a solid 31-13 spanking a year ago, and in week #5 the Gamecocks will wrap up a three-game road trip with a Sept. 26 meeting against the Florala Wildcats, a team that the Gamecocks clobbered 41-14 last season. New Brockton will begin a four-week region adventure on Oct. 3 with a home game against the Geneva County Bulldogs, a big 40-12 victim to the Gamecocks last season, while in week #7 the powerful Slocomb Red Taps will head to Florala for an Oct. 10 battle. The Red Taps defeated the Gamecocks 26-0 last season en route to the region title, and looking to be a title threat again this season. New Brockton will travel to Skipperville on Oct. 27 for a region match-up against a G.W. Long Rebel squad that fell to the Gamecocks 24-6 last year, and on Oct. 24 the Gamecocks will close out region action with a home game against the Wicksburg Panthers. The Gamecocks spanked the Panthers 33-0 a year ago, and will be looking for a repeat performance this season in front of the home fans. The Gamecocks will close out the season on Oct. 31 when they travel across county to battle the Kinston Bulldogs. The Gamecocks pounded the Bulldogs 49-6 last season and will be looking to continue their superiority over their county rivals.

New Brockton faces tough region tests against Red Level (7-4), Samson (5-5), Houston Academy (11-2) and Slocomb (12-2), but the rest of the schedule appears favorable for the

ELBA TIGERS

Aug. 28	Brantley (9-3)	Away
Sept. 5	Central * (1-9)	Home
Sept. 12	W.S. Neal * (6-4)	Away
Sept. 19	Pike County * (11-2)	Home
Sept. 26	Luverne (8-4)	Away
Oct. 3	T.R. Miller * (11-3)	Away
Oct. 10	Straughn * (8-3)	Home
Oct. 17	Calhoun * (1-9)	Away
Oct. 24	Clarke Co. * (5-5)	Home
Oct. 31	Geneva Co. * (0-10)	Home

* Denotes region games

NEW BROCKTON GAMECOCKS

Aug. 29	Zion Chapel (0-10)	Home
Sept. 5	Red Level * (7-4)	Home
Sept. 12	Samson * (5-5)	Away
Sept. 19	Houston Ac. * (11-2)	Away
Sept. 26	Florala (1-9)	Away
Oct. 3	Geneva Co. * (0-10)	Home
Oct. 10	Slocomb * (12-2)	Home
Oct. 17	G.W. Long * (4-6)	Away
Oct. 24	Wicksburg * (4-6)	Home
Oct. 31	Kinston (4-5)	Away

* Denotes region games

KINSTON BULLDOGS

Aug. 29	Open Date	
Sept. 5	Houston Co. * (4-6)	Away
Sept. 12	Ariton * (5-6)	Home
Sept. 19	Florala * (1-9)	Home
Sept. 26	Samson (5-5)	Away
Oct. 3	Zion Chapel * (0-10)	Home
Oct. 10	Florala * (9-3)	Away
Oct. 17	Cottonwood * (6-7)	Away
Oct. 24	Pleasant Home * (5-5)	Home
Oct. 31	New Brockton (7-4)	Home

* Denotes region games

ZION CHAPEL REBELS

Aug. 29	New Brockton (7-4)	Away
Sept. 5	Pleasant Home * (5-5)	Home
Sept. 12	Houston Co. * (4-6)	Home
Sept. 19	Ariton * (5-6)	Away
Sept. 26	G.W. Long (4-6)	Away
Oct. 3	Kinston * (4-5)	Away
Oct. 9	Florala * (1-9)	Home
Oct. 17	Brantley * (9-3)	Home
Oct. 24	Cottonwood * (6-7)	Away
Oct. 31	McKenzie (12-1)	Home

* Denotes region games

BRANTLEY BULLDOGS

Aug. 29	Elba (5-5)	Home
Sept. 5	Cottonwood * (6-7)	Home
Sept. 12	Pleasant Home * (5-5)	Away
Sept. 19	Houston Co. * (4-6)	Away
Sept. 26	Highland Home (10-2)	Home
Oct. 3	Ariton * (5-6)	Home
Oct. 10	Kinston * (4-5)	Home
Oct. 17	Zion Chapel * (0-10)	Away
Oct. 24	Florala * (1-9)	Home
Oct. 31	Luverne (8-4)	Away

* Denotes region games

Gamecocks and another winning season appears on the horizon.

ZION CHAPEL REBELS

The Zion Chapel Rebels stumbled to an 0-10 record last season and while the Rebels will have a new head coach and should be improved in all areas, the schedule is identical to last season and will provide Zion Chapel with ten straight challenges on the gridiron.

Zion Chapel will open the season on Aug. 29 on the road when the Rebels battle the New Brockton Gamecocks in a cross-county grudge match. The Rebels fell hard 48-0 a year ago to the Gamecocks, but will be looking to gain some momentum this time around against their rivals from across Coffee County. The Rebels will be at home in week #2 for a Sept. 5 region contest against the Pleasant Home Eagles, a team

that rolled up a big 55-0 score on the Rebels last season, while in week #3 Zion Chapel will remain at home for a Sept. 12 region battle against the Houston County Lions. The Rebels only lost to the Lions 20-12 last season, and Zion Chapel fans will be looking for a possible win in this match-up. It will be back on the road in week #4 as the Rebels head over to Ariton for a key region encounter on Sept. 19 against a Purple Cat squad that defeated the Rebels 39-20 last season, and the Rebels will then wrap up the opening half of the schedule on Sept. 26 when they travel to Skipperville to tangle with the G.W. Long Rebels, a team that handed Zion Chapel a 47-7 setback a year ago.

Continued...Please see "Schedules" on Page 9

SPORTS

Continued from Page 8....

"Schedules"

The sixth week of the season will find the Rebels back on the road for an Oct. 3 region battle against the Kinston Bulldogs. The Rebels suffered a 40-6 loss to the Bulldogs last season, but will be looking for payback this time around in part two of the cross-county series. The Rebels will return home on Thursday night, Oct. 9 when they host the Florala Wildcats in a region battle. The Wildcats got their only win of the season last season with a 31-6 victory over Zion Chapel. Zion Chapel will remain at home on Oct. 17 when the Rebels host the defending region champion Brantley Bulldogs, and the Rebels will be hoping to improve on last year's 47-0 loss to the powerful Bulldogs from Crenshaw County. Zion Chapel will close out region play on Oct. 24 with a road trip to Cottonwood as the Rebels challenge the Cottonwood Bears, a team that defeated the Rebels 46-0 a year ago, while in the season finale on Oct. 31 the Rebels will tangle with the McKenzie Tigers, a 1A power that whipped the Rebels 45-0 in last season's final regular season game.

The Rebels posted an 0-10 mark last season and will face the same opponents this season. However, only two region foes managed to post winning records a year ago, and that could mean better days are ahead for Zion Chapel.

KINSTON BULLDOGS

The Kinston Bulldogs shed their image of being a football pretender several seasons ago, and this year should once again threaten to make a trip to the state playoffs as they compete in what could be one of the state's weakest 1A regions.

Kinston will be off in week #1 and will get in an extra week of preseason work-outs, while on Sept. 5 the Bulldogs will jump into the region wars with a road game against the Houston County Lions. The Bulldogs stunned the Lions 31-19 last season, but this year the 'Dogs must travel into the Lions' den, and the season opener for Kinston looks like anything but an easy ride. The Bulldogs will

return home on Sept. 12 for a region battle against the Ariton Purple Cats, a team that upset Kinston 26-8 last season, while on Sept. 19 the 'Dogs will host the Florala Wildcats in a region battle that Kinston won 42-13 just one year ago. Kinston will exit the region wars in week #5 for a trip to Samson to meet the 2A Samson Tigers, a team that handed the Bulldogs a 35-14 spanking last season, and in week #6 the Bulldogs will jump back into region action for an Oct. 3 cross-county clash at home against the Zion Chapel Rebels, a 40-6 Bulldog victim last year. On Oct. 10 Kinston will head to Crenshaw County to face the defending region champion Brantley Bulldogs. Brantley upped Kinston 53-6 last season, and this game should be one that Kinston fans can use as a gauge as to just how good this year's team really is. The Bulldogs will be on the road again on Oct. 17 for a region clash with the Cottonwood Bears, a team that edged past Kinston 29-20 last season; while in week #9 the 'Dogs will close out region action with an Oct. 24 home battle with the Pleasant Home Eagles, a 24-8 Bulldog victim last season. The end of the regular season will come on Oct. 31 when the Bulldogs host county rival New Brockton. The 2A Gamecocks spanked the Bulldogs 49-6 last year, but all Bulldog fans have this date circled and will be looking for the 'Dogs will pay back their rivals from across Coffee County.

With only two region rivals able to post winning records last season the Kinston Bulldogs should be confident heading into the 2003 season. However, the Bulldogs were one of the five teams in the region that didn't post a winning slate a year ago, and this season will be a battle each and every week.

BRANTLEY BULLDOGS

The Brantley Bulldogs made it look easy last season in rolling to the region title, and while the names are the same this time around, the change in sites for a few key games could bring in a challenge for the high-

Charles Cole accepts position as head girls basketball coach at Daleville High

Back in 1981, New Brockton's Coach Charles Cole announced his retirement from coaching after guiding the Gamecocks to the Class 2A state championship. After a few weeks of retirement, the popular coach joked that one day he would have to get back into coaching since he left the game only one win short of reaching the 300 win plateau. It took over 21 years for that day to come, but it finally arrived last week when Coach Cole announced that he had accepted the position of head girls basketball coach at Daleville High School.

"I honestly never thought I would be a head-coach at the high school level again," stated Cole, now the Mayor of New Brockton, "but Eddie Hill, the superintendent of the Daleville City Schools, called me back a few weeks ago and asked me if I would be interested in taking the position. I thought he was joking, but after I found out he was

serious I thought about it for a while and thought I would give it a shot. I have always loved the game of basketball and love working with kids. It has been over twenty years since I have been a head coach, but I have been a volunteer assistant for the past ten years working with the girls program at New Brockton, and believe I can still teach the game."

Cole, the mayor of New Brockton since 2001, will continue to hold that position with the City, but will leave in the afternoons and hang his whistle around his neck when he walks onto the court. During his coaching career, Cole posted a career record of 299-124. His record at Warren Smith High School and New Hope Junior High was a combined 241-92, while during his three years at New Brockton his teams posted a record of 58-32 and won one state title.

At Daleville, Coach Cole will

ly-favored Bulldogs.

Brantley will open the season at home on Aug. 29 when the Bulldogs host the 3A Elba Tigers. The Tigers handed the 'Dogs a 13-0 setback last season in Elba, but this time the game will be on the Bulldogs' home field, and Brantley fans are looking forward to the game to see just how much the Bulldogs have improved since a year ago. The Bulldogs will jump into the region wars in week #2 when they host the Cottonwood Bears on Sept. 5. The Bulldogs defeated the Bears 29-12 last season, but the Bears caught fire late and advanced to the third round of the playoffs, and could be the second of two tough opening opponents Brantley will hit on the road for the next two weeks as they travel to Pleasant Home on Sept. 12 and Houston County on Sept. 19 in two region encounters. Last year's wins over the Eagles 31-0 and the Lions 41-0 will no doubt be in the minds of their hosts when the Bulldogs arrive, and it could mean anything but a friendly welcome. Week #5 will find the Bulldogs back at home on Sept. 26 to host the 2A power Highland Home Flying Squadron, a team that defeated the Bulldogs 14-7 last season, while on Oct. 3 Brantley will host the Ariton Purple Cats, a 19-7 Bulldog victim a year ago. The Bulldogs will remain at home on Oct. 10 when they host the Kinston Bulldogs, a team Brantley pounded 53-6 last season, and on Oct. 17 the 'Dogs will travel to Zion Chapel to meet the Rebels, a team that felt the wrath of the Bulldogs last year to the tune of 47-0. Brantley will return home on Oct. 24 for a region clash with the Florala Wildcats, a 47-6 loser to the Bulldogs a year ago, and Brantley will then wrap up the regular season on Oct. 31 with a trip to Luverne to battle the 2A Luverne Tigers. Brantley whipped their county rivals 36-14 last season, but when these two tangle anything can, and usually does happen.

While the Bulldogs' region schedule may not be strong, their non-region slate includes three South Alabama football powers. This schedule could be tougher than many think.

2003 ELBA HIGH CHEERLEADING SQUADS



ELBA TIGER VARSITY CHEERLEADERS... (Pictured above, kneeling, l-r) Tori Brooks, Kristen Barnes, Anna Harrison, Kendall Stinson, Mary Katherine Head, (standing, l-r) Cameron Irwin, Anna Anderson, Lyndsay Lawford, Mallory Allen, Rashaunda Whitfield.



ELBA TIGER JUNIOR VARSITY CHEERLEADERS... (Pictured above, front row, l-r) Sydney Brunson, Whitley Kilcrease, Cortlin Lee, Shae Yelverton, (standing, l-r) Hannah Manning, Christina Bryant, Lauren McClung, Melanie Mulzar-Captain, Meagan Anderson. Not pictured - Brianna Bailey, Captain.



Charles Cole

inherit a program that advanced to the Southeast Regional Tournament each of the past two seasons and last season posted an 18-5 record.

"Daleville has a very good girls basketball program and it is an honor for me to have the opportunity to become a part of it," added Cole. "I have met with many of the girls that played last season and have watched film. The team will be young this season, but the players know how to win and have a good group of players coming back that should provide experience and leadership. I believe that good coaching starts with discipline and this team will start with defense and will play hard every second of every game. I will demand the respect of every player on the team and will put a team on the court that will play with class and with a positive attitude. The game of basketball may have changed over the past twenty years, but the fundamentals of the game are still the same and it still takes hard work to be successful. I will work hard and so will my players."

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SPORTS

Let's Go...
Outdoors with Ben
 by Ben Norman, Sports Columnist



Enjoy Park Bears At A Distance

Mid summer finds many Alabamians visiting state and national parks all across this great country. The Smoky Mountains National Park will get more visitors from our area than other national parks, but some will journey to Yellowstone and other remote parks.

One of the primary reasons for visiting our parks is to observe the abundant wildlife. Park animals have lost at least some of their natural fear of man, making viewing easier. But this loss of fear sometimes creates problems for vacationers.

East of the Mississippi, the black bear is one of the most sought after park animals to observe. The cubs can be especially intriguing as they roll, tumble and take turns chasing each other up a tree. But keep in mind that if you are close to a pair of frolicking cubs you are probably too close to mama bear.

Wild black bears are normally not aggressive and will flee at the sight or smell of man unless they think their cubs are endangered. Park bears however have learned that they may get a hand out from travelers and will often approach cars looking for goodies. While feeding bears may seem compassionate, the tourist is often dooming the bear by doing so. Some bears will get so dependant on free handouts during the summer, they lose their natural ability to forage for food during winter and may not survive.

Most encounters with bears will occur along a hiking trail or against a proper food storage when camping is your best insurance against bear problems. Suspend food items in a bag or pack between two trees at least 15 feet high and 4 feet from the tree. If a bear is encountered on a trail, don't approach it. If the bear appears nervous, back away slowly but don't run. Should the bear follow you after backing away, change directions while keeping an eye on the bear. If an attack appears imminent bear experts recommend that you stand your ground with whatever weapon you have or can find. Hollering, throwing rocks, or using a sharpened walking stick can discourage an attack. Stand on your tiptoes and spread your jacket or shirt to appear much larger. Don't lie down and play dead if attacked by a black bear. Experts say this play often works with grizzlies but not with black bears.

The newer bear repellent sprays may be the best deterrent. When purchasing a spray, make sure it has an EPA registration number. This will insure that it has at least 1.0% (higher is better) of capsaicin. Older sprays that used oleoresin capsicum are not as effective as capsaicin sprays.

The odds of being attacked by a bear are less than being struck by lightning, but having a can of bear repellent on hand will be comforting. I think I prefer giving a menacing bear a squirt of bear repellent rather than standing on my tiptoes, flapping my jacket and hollering at him.

Brantley Bulldogs just miss Top 10

Area teams make preseason prep football poll

The Alabama Sports Writers Association released its preseason high school football polls for the upcoming 2003 season recently and included among the teams ranked across the state were a number of area teams.

In Class 6A the Enterprise Wildcats were ranked #20, while in Class 5A Eufula came in ranked #10 and Charles Henderson held down the #19 position. Daleville was ranked eighth in the state in Class 4A, followed by Opp in 19th, Ashford in 20th and Andalusia in 23rd. In Class 3A, T.R. Miller was ranked #1 in the state in the poll, followed by Pike County in second, Straughn in 13th and W.S. Neal at 19th. The Class 2A poll included Slocomb ranked fourth, Houston Academy fifth, Luverne ninth, Highland Home tenth and Red Level ranked #22. The Class 1A poll found McKenzie ranked seventh, with Brantley coming in at #12 and Cottonwood at #16.

Following is the complete list of "Top 10" teams in each class, along with other area teams and their rankings:

CLASS 6A

1 Hoover, 2 Prattville, 3 Opelika, 4 Daphne, 5 Mountain Brook, 6 Jeff Davis, 7 Davidson, 8 Central of Phenix City, 9 Minor, 10 Hillcrest of Tuscaloosa. (Also) 20 Enterprise.

"Meet The Tigers" cook-out to be held on August 15 at Elba High

The Elba Athletic Club will hold a membership drive/cook-out on Friday, Aug. 15, at 7 p.m. in the Elba High School Commons Area. Not only will the evening be a good opportunity for prospective members to

Williams and King win prizes at Ft. Rucker benefit golf tourney

The Wiregrass Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrollers held its 2nd annual scholarship and community service golf tournament. On a beautiful, clear day, golfers turned out at Fort Rucker's Silver Wings golf course to compete for numerous prizes.

Hunting and fishing licenses may be purchased by phone and mail

Don't have time to go out and get that hunting or fishing license? Don't like or want to stand in long lines? Or, is there simply no place nearby? In case you didn't know, licenses may be purchased over the phone or by mail.

For several years, Bass Pro Shops® has provided a toll-free number that allows callers to get licenses instantly. Callers will be given a temporary authorization code that allows immediate use. To take advantage of this convenience, however, callers must have a major credit card. In addition to regular license fees, a \$3.95 processing fee will be charged. To purchase a license by phone, call 1-888-848-6887.

Licenses may be purchased by mail from the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, 64 North Union Street, Suite 567, Montgomery, AL 36104. Mail requests must include completed application, proper payment and copy of driver's license. Application packets may be obtained by calling 334-242-3465, emailing jsjohn@dnr.state.al.us, or visiting the website at www.dnr.state.al.us after August 1, 2003.

Plans are underway to provide online purchase as early as August. The fee for this service will vary based on the cost of the license.

A license is required for all residents and non-residents aged 16-64. Residents 65 years of age and over are exempt from buying licenses. Fishing licenses expire one year from date of purchase and hunting licenses expire each year on July 31.

For more information, contact the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' License office at 334-242-3829.

CLASS 5A

1 Homewood, 2 Briarwood, 3 Benjamin Russell, 4 Russellville, 5 Hartselle, 6 B.C. Rain, 7 Gardendale, 8 St. Pugs, 9 Cullman, 10 Eufula. (Also) 19, Charles Henderson.

CLASS 4A

1 North Jackson, 2 UMS-Wright, 3 Trinity, 4 Cleburne County, 5 Deshler, 6 Demopolis, 7 Thomasville, 8 Daleville, 9 East Limestone, 10 Cherokee County. (Also) 19, Opp, 20, Ashford, 23 Andalusia.

CLASS 3A

1 T.R. Miller, 2 Pike County, 3 Colbert County, 4 Litchfield, 5 Montgomery Academy, 6 Dora, 7 Tarrant, 8 Oneonta, 9 Springville, 10 West Morgan. (Also) 13, Straughn, 19 W.S. Neal.

CLASS 2A

1 Southern Choctaw, 2 Lineville, 3 Pisgah, 4 Slocomb, 5 Houston Academy, 6 Washington County, 7 Leroy, 8 Euflye, 9 Luverne, 10 Highland Home. (Also) 22, Red Level.

CLASS 1A

1 Clay County, 2 Autaugaville, 3 Hazlewood, 4 Parrish, 5 Courtland, 6 Isabella, 7 McKenize, 8 Ragland, 9 Reelfoot, 10 Addison. (Also) 12 Brantley, 16 Cottonwood.

Elba's Rhoades thinks rally scoring will make volleyball more exciting

Rally scoring will be used for the 2003 high school volleyball season by the Alabama High School Athletic Association and while the change will result in a change in plans for coaches all across the state, Elba's Coach Amelia Rhoades believes the change will bring with it new excitement for both the players and fans.

"I am excited about the change in going to the rally system," stated Coach Rhoades, "and I think the fans will like the way it speeds up the game and the action on the court. I have been coaching volleyball for a long time and I am not one that gets too excited about changes in the sport, but I think this change will be good for the sport and look forward to the season to see the change take place."

In rally scoring, matches are a best of five format and games are played to 25 points with no cap. However, when in the past only the team serving could score points, under the new rally system both the serving team and the receiving team can score. The change also eliminates the "let serve" and makes teams play a serve that touches the net.

"It may take the players a while to grasp the new rules," added Coach Rhoades, "but it make them stay alert even more than before and will result in a faster paced game. It will still be very important to be able to serve effectively, but now a defense can win a point for itself when it makes a good play and not simply win the right to serve."

In another rule change for the 2003 season, multiple hits by one player may be permitted. The new rule states that multiple contacts by one player are permitted only if the first team hit, whether or not the ball was touched by the second team.

It is illegal to "rescue" fawns that appear to be abandoned or lost

At this time of year, it's quite common to find fawns that appear to be abandoned. The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources' Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division encourages citizens not to remove these animals from the wild because it is illegal to be in possession of any live white-tailed deer.

Chances are that a seemingly abandoned fawn isn't abandoned at all, but is actually being protected by its mother. "How is a doe protecting her fawn by leaving it?" you ask. Since fawns are virtually scentless and well camouflaged, the doe moves away while feeding so that her scent doesn't attract a predator to the fawn's location. She is using natural instinct to

protect her fawn.

Many people believe that because the fawn is alone it must have been abandoned. They decide that the fawn needs "rescuing," so they, remove it. Often they take the fawn home where someone attempts to raise it. Doing so will negatively affect the welfare of the animal.

Fawns, as well as other young, wild animals, have needs that humans do not realize. Once habituated to humans, these deer, even if raised to adult age, can rarely be successfully returned to the wild. So, if you come across one of these fawns, the best advice is to just leave it there. If you have already removed one, then it is best to return it and release it exactly where it was found.

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Changes in motor vehicle dealer tag requirements and fees coming Oct. 1

Alabama motor vehicle dealers and manufacturers will notice some important changes this October when they purchase their dealer and manufacturer tags.

As a result of legislation passed last year during the 2002 Regular Session, key provisions of Alabama's dealer tag law were amended to provide new registration fee schedules, remove restrictions regarding the number of tags a dealer may obtain, change the tag renewal period from two years to one year, and eliminate certain registration requirements.

Effective Oct. 1, 2003, the new registration and issuance fees for the motor vehicle dealer, motorcycle dealer, and manufacturer license plates will change from the current \$10 per plate fee to the following: motorcycle dealer, \$26; motorcycle dealer, \$18; and manufacturer, \$24.25. The license plates will expire on September 30 each year and will be renewed during October and November each year.

Another important change for dealers and manufacturers involves the license plate issuance procedures. Beginning with the new registration year, Oct. 1, 2003, dealers and manufacturers will purchase their license plates from the Alabama Department of Transportation (ALDOT) at the time of registration.

For more information concerning Alabama's dealer tag law and recent changes in the law, contact the Motor Vehicle Division at (334) 242-9000 or visit the department's Web site at www.adot.state.al.us.



The Elba High School Career/Technical Educational Department hosted guests from LBW Community College's MacArthur Campus last Tuesday, July 29, for a program concerning the dual enrollment program. This program is a new upcoming joint effort between the high school and community college which educates students who will greatly benefit students as they prepare for the future. Those participating in the meeting included (from left): Donna Clark, Johnny Dunn, Jacob Davis, Cindy Green, Judith Tucker, Leroy Carmel, Donald Lawford, Ingrid Clark, Danny Weeks, Martha Crawford, Larry Goodson, Terri Dunn, Bruce Sasser, Suzanne Hanscom and Mike Carley.

Cope wins cooperative quilt square competition

Long-time Covington Electric Cooperative member Mary Cope was recently named the winner of the Alabama Rural Electric Association's (AREA) 2003 Cooperative Quilt Competition for the CEC service area.

Information about the competition was published in Alabama Living magazine earlier this year. Members from cooperatives across the state were asked to quilt a square to be judged in Montgomery, Ala., at the AREA headquarters. Several squares were submitted from different CEC members. A panel of judges chose Cope's entry to represent CEC on the state quilt that will be auctioned later this year to raise money for the Electric Cooperative Scholarship program.

Cope said that she thought about the design for a long time because she wanted it to be beautiful, but also representative of her cooperative. Her square theme was based on the history of cooperatives and the REA (Rural Electric Administration). Cope has lived on CEC lines her entire life. In fact, she remembers when they brought electricity to her home for the very first time.



CEC communications specialist Patty Singleton (right) presents a plaque to CEC member Mary Cope (left) for winning the AREA quilt competition.

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2003 Alabama 4-H State Champion Livestock & Meats Judging Teams...Front row from left - Tori Stone, New Brockton; Donna Flowers, Zion Chapel; Keri Flowers, Zion Chapel; Elizabeth Farris, Kinross; Heather Carroll, New Brockton; Ann Scheffer, New Brockton; ara Lea Beasley, Zion Chapel; Carrie Edward, Enterprise; Julie Boyd, Enterprise. Back row from left - Stan Windham, New Donaldson, New Brockton; Layton Griffin, New Brockton; Stephen Hines, New Brockton; Josh Driver, Kinross; John Sawyer, New Brockton; Mark Windham, New Brockton; Chelsey Hollis, New Brockton.

Judge McGuire to speak at MacArthur State's final commencement

MacArthur State Technical College will hold commencement exercises Friday, August 15, at 7:00 p.m. in the Opp High School Auditorium for the final graduating class of the college, before completing a merger with Lurleen B. Wallace Jr. College to become Lurleen B. Wallace Community College.

The college opened its doors on November 22, 1965 as a trade school with twelve departments serving primarily a population of military veterans. The institution has since grown into an accredited technical college, offering seventeen different programs of study. The college is

currently merging with LBW Jr. College in order to offer students a broader range of courses, including transfer credits to the university level.

Judge Frank "Trippy" McGuire will give the final commencement speech to the 2003 graduating class. Judge McGuire is a 1975 graduate of Auburn University and a 1978 graduate of the Cumberland School of Law. He

has held the position of Covington County District Judge since January 1993. The Judge serves as state president for both the Alabama District Judges Association and the Alabama Juvenile Judges Association.

The public is invited to attend the commencement exercises. For more information, please call the college at (334) 493-3573.

For more information, please call the college at (334) 493-3573.

Coffee County School System announces Child Find activities

The Coffee County School System is in the process of identifying all persons with disabilities, ages 3-21 years, who are not enrolled in an educational setting, and all 0-3 year old children with disabilities.

If you are the parent of a child with disabilities, or know of someone who is disabled, please contact the principal of your local school or the Special Education Coordinator's office at the Coffee County Board of Education at 334-897-5016.

It is important that all persons with disabilities be identified so appropriate services can be provided.

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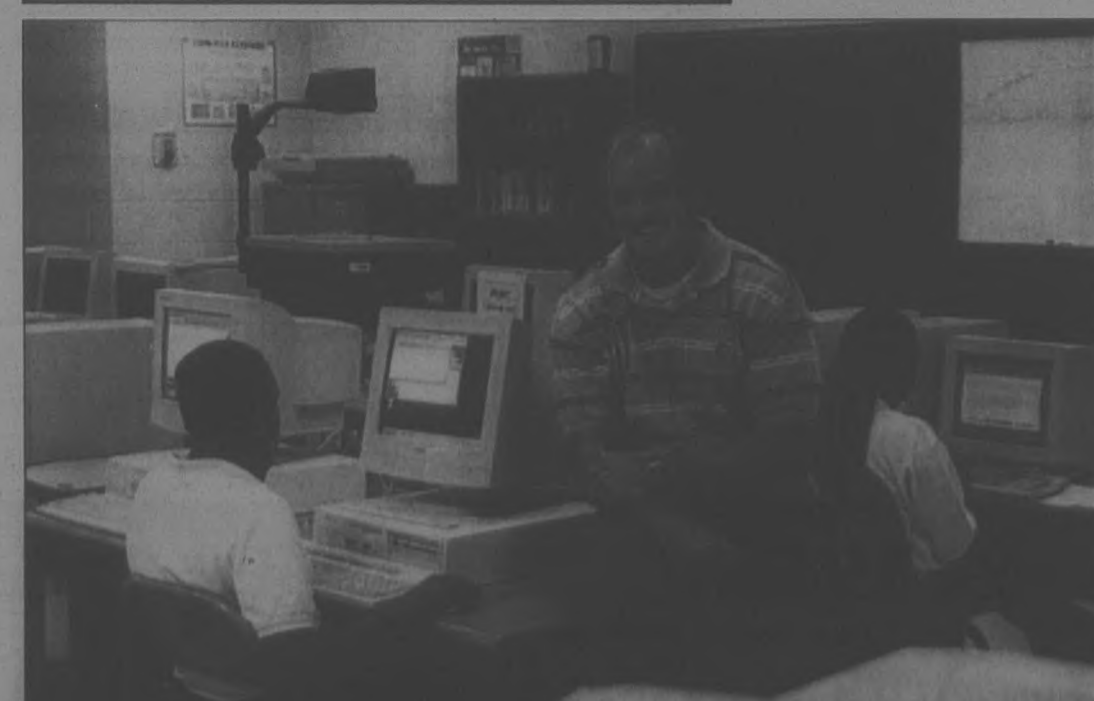
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ABSOLUTE AUCTION: Saturday, August 23, 1:00 p.m. Prime development opportunity! 158 acres+/- in tracts with 1350+ feet of frontage on Highway 72 East, Lineasone County, Alabama. 10% buyers premium. Brochure: 1-256-233-5699; 1-877-914-SOLD (toll free). Garner Auctions, Inc. (KGarnersALSL1002). (R)

AUCTION: SATURDAY, August 9th, 12:00 noon. Exceptional development/investment opportunity: 72 acres+/- in 23 tracts. Winchester Road and Meridian Street in the city of Huntsville, Alabama! (1) tract - tract 23, 1/2-acre+/- on Meridian Street will sell absolute! 10% buyers premium. Brochure and complete terms: 1-256-233-5699; 1-877-914-SOLD (toll free). Garner Auctions, Inc. (KGarnersALSL1002). (R)

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\$100,000
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Call 334-897-5337

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NEW TO THE market! Western NC mountains, Asheville area, large national forest, 500,000 acres is your backyard! For maps, pricing and financing info call 7 days a week. This extraordinary opportunity won't last long! Call now: 1-800-807-5263 (CFP).

HELP WANTED

YOUNG WORLD OF LEARNING want part-time persons to help with clean, trustworthy, dependable Hrs may vary 19 or older. H.S. or G.E.D. diploma. Call between 12:00 & 2:00 897-2745. 8-7-02

HELP WANTED-Assistant Dietary Manager. Job requires strong interpersonal skills and ability to deal effectively with employees, residents & public; strong communication skills; written & verbal needed. Long term care dietary experience preferred, but willing to train. Responsible for interviewing, hiring & orientation of new employees; ordering of supplies; inventory; organizing departments & other related duties. \$9.00 per hour, Monday-Friday's with occasional weekends. Day shift. medical & dental insurance available. competitive benefit package. EOE. If interested, call Susan Marler or Sherry Roberts at Oakview Manor, Ozark, AL. 334-274-2611 between 9:00-5:00 pm. 7-31-02

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT: PIKE MANOR, Troy, Alabama has immediate openings for LPN's full-time and part-time, for 12:00 and 10:00 shift, and RN's full time 8 am to 4 pm Monday thru Friday, may be required to work a weekend once seven weeks. New pay scale, experience pay, and flexible scheduling. Offering apartment, shifts, work 35 hours per paid, for 40. Come join our TEAM of dedicated professionals. We offer Blue/Cross/BlueShield health insurance, dental insurance, 401K retirement, vacation and sick time, tuition reimbursement, and a competitive benefit package. If interested, in employment services, contact Carmen Montgomery or Sabrina Womack, DON @ (334)566-9575 between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday. EOE. 7-31-02

DRIVERS- HOME weekly, 2500-3000 miles, scheduled rates, load/unload/drop pay, benefits, assigned conventional. Some regional available. 1-800-942-2104. Fax 1-800-238-243. www.totalsm.com EOE (R)

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DRIVERS/OWNER operators. Regional Transportation Services, Inc. accepted flatbed owner operators, paid top percentage, weekly settlements, plate program available of 8:00 am and 5:00 p.m. Monday thru Friday. EOE. 7-31-02

EXPERIENCED MAINTENANCE PERSON NEEDED. Apply to: Donnie Carter at 897-3517. Office hours are 10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M. 7-31-02

COUPLE ONLY TO HELP OUT at Chicken Farm. Pick up eggs and other farm labor. Call 897-1371 before 8:30. 6-12-02

THE COFFEE COUNTY PROBATE COURT (encompassing the entire county) is accepting applications and/or resumes for the position of General Clerk. Requirements: must possess high school diploma or equivalent. Must be a resident of Coffee County. Fringe benefits include paid vacation, holidays, health insurance, and State Retirement. Starting pay \$6.09 per hour. Closing date: August 8, 2003. Applications and a more detailed job summary can be picked up at the Alabama Employment Agency in Enterprise, AL. Coffee County is an EOE. 7-31-02

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CONSTRUCTION WORKERS - No exp. necessary. HS grads, ages 17-34. Paid training/relocation. Great salary/benefits. 1-888-255-6289, M-F, 9-4.

DRIVER - BE home most nights! AL, western GA & northern FL. Positions available, loads originating in Birmingham, AL. National auto carrier, Alapex Transportation, Inc. Earn \$50,000+, excellent benefits includes: health insurance, 401K, rider program, safety bonus & recruitment bonus. Plus much more! Must have 2 years actual experience hauling cars! No exceptions! 23 years of age plus good MVR, CDL-A. No DUI's! Call Kathy 1-800-633-2272.

DRIVER - COVENANT Transport. Teams, teams, teams. We need teams for the long haul. Owner operators, experienced drivers, solo, teams and graduate students. Call 1-888-MORE PAY (1-888-667-3299) (R)

DRIVER - OTR only. Flatbed home most weekends, \$2,000 sign-on. Great equipment, good pay, big benefits lots of miles. Start now. Students okay. Dry Van only. 1-888-342-5658. (R)

DRIVER - SIGN on bonus, excellent pay plus additional bonuses. Health insurance, rider program. Drive your truck home. Trucks assigned first week 6 months exp. 1-800-441-4271, ext. B38. (R)

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DRIVERS- HOME weekly, 2500-3000 miles, scheduled rates, load/unload/drop pay, benefits, assigned conventional. Some regional available. 1-800-942-2104. Fax 1-800-238-243. www.totalsm.com EOE (R)

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DRIVER - SIGN on bonus, excellent pay plus additional bonuses. Health insurance, rider program. Drive your truck home. Trucks assigned first week 6 months exp. 1-800-441-4271, ext. B38. (R)

YARD SALE

HUGE YARD SALE. Children's Toys & Clothes, Adult Clothes & Miscellaneous Items. August 9th @ 7:00 am 11:30 am 1270 Al Hwy. 203 (Beside Young World of Learning). Cancel if heavy rain. 8-7-02

YARD SALE - SATURDAY, August 9 Beginning At 8:00 A.M. 922 Herman Driggers Dr. Dishes, Small Appliances, Furniture, Clothes For Women, Boys & Men 8-7-02

BIG YARD SALE... Fri. August 8th & Sat. 9th. 7:30 AM until 12:00 Noon. Joyce Miller's Home Cedar Lane Drive. Troy Hwy. Toddler's Bed, Boys Clothes 1 month to 5 T. Pictures, Shelf, Coffee Table, King Bed, Sofa, Bassoinet, Adult Clothes, Shoes, Sweepers, C.B. Radio Toys, etc. 8-7-02

YARD SALE - FRI. & SAT. AUG. 8 & 9. 7:00 Until... 189 South Left on 427. Left on 435. Clothes, Toys, Play Pen, Misc. Cancel if raining! 897-6514. 7-10-02

2-FAMILY YARD SALE. Saturday, Aug. 9, 7 a.m. Until 1467 N. Smith Avenue. Toys, Clothes, Bicycles, Miscellaneous Items. 8-7-02

1993-1998 FLEETWOOD MOBILE HOME FOR SALE. 3 BR, 2 Bath, Central heat & Air, All Electric, Private Rental. Lot. \$16,500.00. 897-3321. 7-24-02

FOR SALE - 3 BEDROOM, 2 Bath, Just Remodeled. Excellent Condition. \$9,000.00 OBO Call 393-5496. 7-24-02

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FOR RENT: 2 BR Mobile Home. For More Information Call 897-5602. 7-24-02

HOUSE FOR RENT: 3 BR, 2 Bath House. Central Cooling & Heating. Double Car Garage. Call 897-6332. 8-7-02

1 BR - 1 B MOBILE HOME. Zon Chapel School District. \$175 Month. No Pets 897-6316. 8-7-02

VACATION RENTAL

GOT A timeshare or campground membership? We'll take it! The program provided valuable information regarding the Alabama Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program. The Alabama Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program is a program of the Alabama Department of Public Health. The program is aimed at providing breast and cervical cancer screenings for women who meet certain eligibility requirements. In addition, participants received information regarding how to save your life with the touch of your fingers, early diagnosis, and the latest techniques in breast reconstruction.

IDEAL GIFTS by Friendly has openings for party plan advisors. Must be our new manager program. Decor, gifts, toys, cash, trips, recognition. 1-800-488-4875. www.friendlyhome.com. (R)

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WWW.GULFSHORES.COM Beach Sandpiper Beach Resort. From \$39 (1-p. or arrive Sun/Mon. Free breakfast & camp, wily settlements, Jacuzzis, tiki bar. 1-800-488-8828. www.sandpiperbeach.com

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CLASSIFIEDS

MOBILE HOMES

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REPO'S TAKE OVER PAYMENTS. Single & Double-wide. Call Patie at ADVANTAGE HOME CENTER. 1-866-598-1553. 7-31-02

MOBILE HOME FOR SALE - 1998 HORTON SUMMIT 3 BR, 2 Bath, With large Deck on Back \$6,500. Located on County Road 410 10 Minutes from Elba, 5 Minutes from 10 Baptist Church. Can Stay on Lot for \$50.00 per month or can be moved. Call 565-3642 - evenings. 7-24-02

1998 FLEETWOOD 16 X 80 on 1 Acre - With Large Deck, Storage Building & Carport. 897-1285. 7-10-02

"O" DOWN W/land. Call Patie AVANTAGE HOME CENTER. 1-866-598-1553. 7-31-02

1993-1998 FLEETWOOD MOBILE HOME FOR SALE. 3 BR, 2 Bath, Central heat & Air, All Electric, Private Rental. Lot. \$16,500.00. 897-3321. 7-24-02

FOR SALE - 3 BEDROOM, 2 Bath, Just Remodeled. Excellent Condition. \$9,000.00 OBO Call 393-5496. 7-24-02

Got something to sell? Try an Elba Clipper Classified. You'll be glad you did!

Women's Cancer Seminar held at LBW-MacArthur

Lucille Latham, Community Educator with the Coffee County Family Services Center, presented "New Horizons in Breast and Cervical Cancer at LBW Community College - MacArthur Campus on Monday, June 23, 2003. Over 60 people attended the seminar. Those attending the seminar included LPN's and RN's, MacArthur nursing students, and the general public.

This seminar was sponsored by the Coffee County Family Services Center, the Avon Breast Crusade, and the Alabama Department of Public Health. The program provided valuable information regarding the Alabama Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program. The Alabama Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program is a program of the Alabama Department of Public Health. The program is aimed at providing breast and cervical cancer screenings for women who meet certain eligibility requirements. In addition, participants received information regarding how to save your life with the touch of your fingers, early diagnosis, and the latest techniques in breast reconstruction.

For more information regarding this program, please contact Lucille Latham at (334) 393-8358.

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1999 PONTIAC GRAND AM SE
 - local trade - very sharp



2001 F 150 SUPERCREW - Lariat - 4 wd
 - local trade - one owner



2001 FORD EXPEDITION (EDDIE BAUER)
 - extra nice - loaded with leather



2001 MUSTANG CONVERTIBLE
 - leather - low mileage



2002 CHEVROLET TAHOE LS - local trade
 - must see



2000 FOCUS SE - pretty color - automatic



1998 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE - Laredo
 - local trade-in - extra clean



2002 MERCURY SABLE - PS-PW/locks - tilt
 - cruise - alum wheels



1999 VOLKSWAGON JETTA GL - local trade
 - great buy



2001 CHEV TAHOE LS - only 25K miles
 - must see



2001 LINCOLN TOWN CAR "SIGNATURE" -
 - extra clean - fully loaded - great value



2002 Z 71 EX CAB LS - local trade - must see



2002 FORD EXPLORER XLT - 4 dr
 - power windows & locks - tilt & cruise



2001 HYUNDAI SANTA FE - leather interior -
 - all wheel drive - local trade



2000 Z 71 REG CAB LS - sharp - very clean



2002 FORD ESCAPE - power windows & locks - tilt
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INSIDE

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The Elba Clipper

Volume 107, Number 9

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, August 14, 2003

1 Section, 14 Pages Plus 2 Adv. Inserts

Elba City Council approves tax increase on tobacco products

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council unanimously approved an increased tobacco tax ordinance Monday evening during the regular council meeting. Council members discussed the proposed changes in the tobacco tax during a scheduled work session held immediately before the council meeting. The tax change will be effective October 1st, 2003.

Under the new schedule, tax on cigarettes will increase from .04 to .10 cents per pack. The five count package of cigars will also be taxed at .10 cents, while a box of 50 cigars will carry a \$2.00 tax stamp. Chewing tobacco, snuff, etc. will be taxed at either .15 or .25 per unit, based on size and tobacco content. Tobacco products sold outside the city limits but within the police jurisdiction will be taxed at half the above amounts.

In addition to the increase in taxes, the new ordinance clarifies certain categories of language which was not clear and in the original ordinance, causing some confusion with tobacco license holders.

The council approved two resolutions needed for a Community Development Block Grant application. The grant for \$52,475.00 is to help fund an industrial expansion 12" water line.

Another resolution passed was in support of a Southeast Alabama Gas District plan to change their bylaws to increase and stabilize the amount of money passed to the user cities each year. Under the new proposed bylaws, amendment amounts returned to the municipalities will be based on a five year average of income over expenses.

Monthly bills totaling

\$80,703.12 were approved for payment. This itemized list includes \$10,416.07 transferred to the Elba City Schools, \$10,608.05 owed to the utility board for city utilities, and \$8,523.50 insurance payments and various other normal operating expenses including a check for \$1.98 to EDSO Fasteners.

City Clerk Wayne Grantham issued a plea that motorists be especially watchful in Elba due to the tremendous and varied amount of construction going on all over the city.

No council member had a recommendation for appointment to the Coffee County Board of

Rumors run rapid following t-shirt incident at Zion Chapel Schools

by Linda Hodge, Editor

School aged children love to wear trendy clothing, but sometimes those faddish must get a definite must not from school officials. This hit close to home last week as school officials and students at Zion Chapel found themselves in a fashion stand-off.

In this particular case, the questionable clothing involved shirts containing the Rebel flag in which students were told not to wear the shirts deemed offensive by some students and other community members. Many locals took exception to this since the school is after all known as the Zion Chapel Rebels.

However, school officials quickly reminded everyone that the Rebel flag is not the school's mascot. Instead, it is and has always been an Army Colonel (as shown here with this article).

So, where did the problem stem from last week at Zion Chapel?

Apparently, t-shirts designed to symbolize Southern heritage and honoring the Confederate flag have become very popular among teenagers, and the fact that the Confederate flag has always been associated with being a Rebel adds extra appeal to students at Zion Chapel.

With more than one company producing these type t-shirts, consumers are open to many different designs, and some name

brands are considered more tasteful than others.

According to Coffee County Schools Superintendent Dr. Linda Ingram, many students started wearing these type t-shirts last year as well as waving large Confederate flags from their vehicles. Over time this had become a problem in the schools, and she said the faculty asked principal Jerry Barnes to address the situation. His response came as a warning to students early last week that shirts deemed offensive and containing the Rebel flag would not be allowed.

Ingram said the policy has always been to ask students wearing offensive shirts to turn them out for the remainder of the school day or take it off if the student had another shirt.

Ingram said none of the shirts involved in last week's situation were Zion Chapel Rebel shirts, and students were only sent home after refusing to turn their shirt inside out. She said students were allowed to come back to school after changing.

"The situation was not nearly as controversial as some made it out to be," Ingram said. "I would say there was less than 10 children in the entire week that got in trouble."

And, she said the issue was

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LAND ALMOST CLEARED and the local dog pound on its last legs as the City of Elba prepares to move out and make room for Elba's newest industry, Toledo Molding and Die, which will occupy a 40 acre site off the 203 Bypass and adjoining Elba's Carl Folsom Airport. The firm hopes to be in the building by the end of the year and in production by late January or early February in the 92,000 square foot building and plans to have over 100 employees soon after startup of auto parts production. The firm doing the site preparation plans to remove as much as seven feet of dirt in some areas, replacing it with other compacted more soil to ensure a strong foundation under the building. The dog pound will be relocated across from the work release center, according to Mayor James Grimes.

During Coffee County Commission meeting

County revenue commissioner and probate judge address governor's proposed tax plan

by Linda Hodge, Editor

During the regular meeting of the Coffee County Commission Monday, Aug. 11, two department heads addressed how the governor's proposed tax plan if passed will effect business in their offices.

Coffee County Revenue Commissioner Ronnie Burns and Coffee County Probate Judge William Gammill each accepted an invitation from the commission to discuss the proposed tax plan and the changes county residents will endure if it is passed by voters on Tuesday, Sept. 9.

Burns immediately let it be known that he is opposed to the passage of the tax plan indicating he feels it will be "too much, too quick on a certain sector of society."

He explained the changes the plan will enforce through a figure comparison, and said the current state tax on 240 acres with a \$600 per acre value is \$31.20. Through the governor's proposed plan, he said the tax on this same acreage amount will increase to \$84.

The acre exemption will increase from 160 to 200; however, Burns said the assessment ratio will also increase from 10 percent to 100 percent. Burns said this will result in a 170 percent increase in state tax.

The revenue commissioner also gave a comparison on how the plan will effect taxes on a house valued at \$100,000.

Like the acreage example, he said the millage rate will decrease from 6.5 mills to 3.5 mills, but again, the assessment ratio will increase from 10 percent to 100 percent.

With these changes, the state tax will go from the current amount of \$39 to \$175 if the proposed plan is passed. That will be a difference of \$136 or a 350 percent increase in state tax.

Burns also said the county assessment value will remain the same; therefore, the increase in taxes will strictly be a state increase.

He said these figures represent a normal homestead, and those over 65 will still be exempt if their income qualifies them for the exemption. Although Burns said he supports the governor, he said he can not support this proposed tax plan because of the too much, too quick reasoning along with no one being able to fully explain all the aspects of the proposed tax plan.

"This bill is a very complicated, very long bill," Burns said. "I would be very afraid to vote for something they can't explain

wholly to you."

Probate Judge William Gammill said the governor's proposed tax plan will effect taxpayers in three different ways through probate office transactions.

He said casual sales tax will increase 1/2 percent on the sale of all vehicles and boats. Currently, the state sales tax is 2 percent.

Gammill said this will equate to an increase of \$50 per each \$10,000 of purchase price of all vehicles and boats.

Through the proposed plan, he said the ad valorem tax on vehicles will experience an increase of a four year period.

Currently, private owned vehicles are taxed for ad valorem taxes based on 15 percent of the assessed value multiplied by a 6.5 millage rate. Over a four year period, Gammill said the proposed tax plan will gradually increase the assessment ratio from 15 percent to 100 percent. The millage rate will decrease from the present 6.5 mills to 3.5 mills.

Gammill used an example of a taxpayer owning a vehicle valued at \$20,000.

The current tax on this vehicle assessed at 15 percent with 6.5 mills equates to \$19.50. If the tax bill passes, the changes will be implemented as follows for the vehicle valued at \$20,000:

• Jan. 2004 the assessed value will be at 45 percent multiplied by a 3.5 millage rate which equates to \$31.50. This is a \$12 difference from the current tax rate.

• Jan. 2005 the assessed value will be at 63 percent multiplied by a 3.5 millage rate which equates to \$44.10. This is a \$24.60 difference from the current tax rate.

• Jan. 2006 the assessed value will be at 81 percent multiplied by a 3.5 millage rate which equates to \$56.70. This is a \$37.70 difference from the current tax rate.

• Jan. 2007 the assessed value will be at 100 percent multiplied by a 3.5 millage rate which equates to \$70. This is a \$50.50 difference from the current tax rate.

Overall, the proposed tax plan will implement a 260 percent tax increase for ad valorem tax.

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Area Happenings

THE SOUTHEAST ALABAMA BEEKEEPERS ASSOCIATION will hold its monthly meeting Thursday, Aug. 14, at the Coffee County Home Center. For more information, please call Elizabeth Whitlock at (334) 894-2077 or Charles Jeter at (334) 306-2734.

NEW BROCKTON HIGH SCHOOL will hold an Open House Thursday, Aug. 14, from 4-6 p.m. All parents are asked to come and meet the teachers.

THE ELBA HIGH SCHOOL BAND BOOSTERS CLUB will hold an organizational meeting Monday, Aug. 18, at 7 p.m., in the high school band room.

THE THIRD ANNUAL "TIGER WITHIN CLASSIC" will be held Thursday, Aug. 21, at Miller Memorial Stadium in Elba. The Elba Tigers will take on the Tuscaloosa Tigers in this exhibition match. Tickets are \$5.00.

NEW SEASONS STEAK STEAK will sponsor Elba's 50th Anniversary Celebration, Sept. 6, at the Elba Recreation Center. Tickets for the event are \$10.00 and can be purchased at the Elba Chamber of Commerce or Diner's Hall and both stores.



OWNERSHIP CHANGES... Subway of Elba, located at 1698 Hickman Avenue, held a grand opening celebration Monday, Aug. 11, as the business celebrated its new ownership. The restaurant recently came under the ownership of Mike Hall, and many local citizens visited the sandwich eatery to welcome his new management team to Elba's food industry. Helping the business celebrate its grand opening was the Elba Chamber of Commerce which hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony at 11 a.m. Monday morning. Those present for the ribbon cutting ceremony included (from left): Sam Cooper, Kaye Whitworth - executive director of the Elba Chamber of Commerce, Junior Miss Elba Cameron Irwin, Kenneth Calhoun, Barry Giles, Tonya Jones, James Barnes, Theresa Chandler - manager, Future Little Miss Elba Annisley Padgett, Ramona Grantham, Elba City Clerk Wayne Grantham - filling in for Elba Mayor James Grimes, Steve Cox, Rene Lambert, Brandi DeSandro, Doris Matthews, Herby McCall, Jesse Kelley and Miss Elba Anna Anderson.